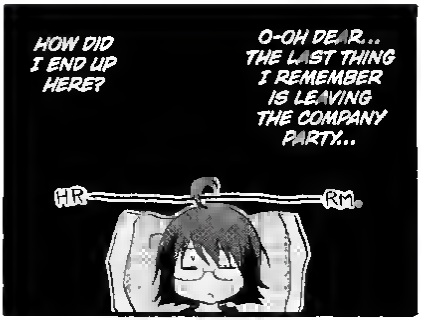
SERVANT
SERVANT×SERVICE
2
Karino Takatsu
SERVIC

SERVANT×SERVICE

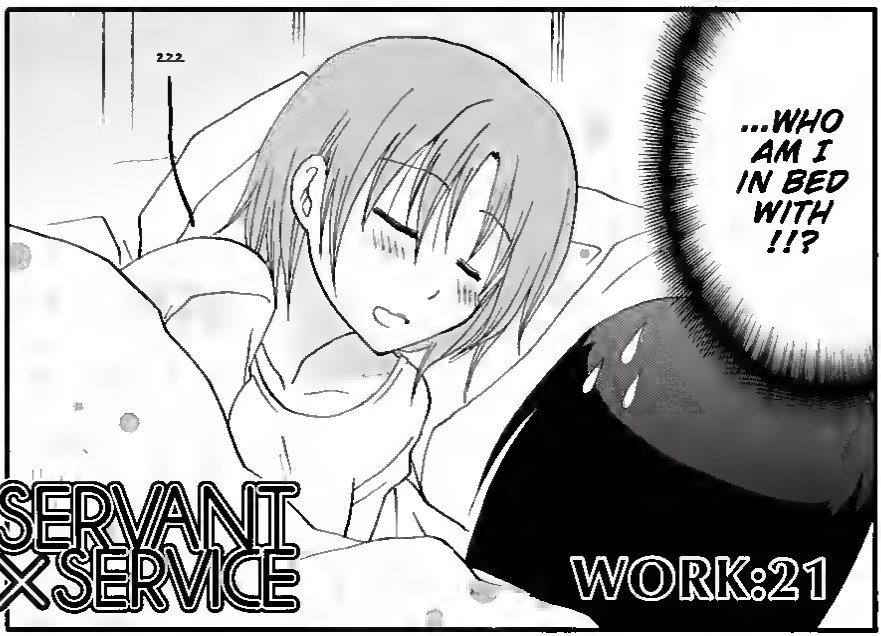
WORK:21 003
WORK:22 009
WORK:23 015
WORK:24 021
WORK:25 029
WORK:26 035
WORK:27 043
WORK:28 049
WORK:29 055
WORK:30 061
WORK:31 067
WORK:32 073
WORK:33 081
WORK:34 087
WORK:35 095
WORK:36 107
WORK:37 115
WORK:38 121
WORK:39 127
WORK:40 133
WORK:41 139


HOW DID I END UP HERE?
O-OH DEAR... THE LAST THING I REMEMBER IS LEAVING THE COMPANY PARTY...
HR
RM.

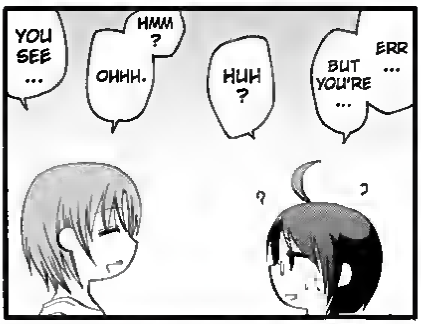
OUR MAIN CHARACTER WAS CARRIED OFF.
LAST TIME —
HOTEL

MORE IMPORTANTLY...
TURN
PUTTING GLASSES ON DIDN'T CLEAR THAT UP
AND WHERE IN THE WORLD IS "HERE" ANYWAY?

.....
THE NEXT MORNING


222
...WHO AM I IN BED WITH !!?
SERVANT × SERVICE
WORK:21

THE MYSTERY HASEBE'S IDENTITY

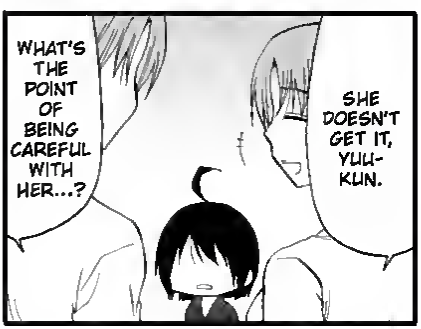


THE MYSTERY WOMAN'S IDENTITY

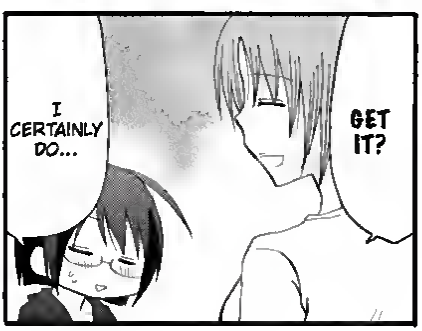
TWO HASEBES?
YEAH, THERE ARE TWO OF US HASEBES HERE.
?
T-TWO HASEBE-SANS...?
STILL DRUNK? YOU OKAY THERE?
WHAT THE ...?
YOU'RE FEMALE, BUT THERE'S A MALE YOU TOO?
MY OLDER SIS.
...WAIT, SO THIS HASEBE-SAN IS ...?
PEEL
THE SHOCKING TRUTH
DON'T TELL ANYONE AT WORK, OKAY?
WH... WHAT !!?
NO, WAIT. SHE DOES LOOK LIKE HASEBE-SAN...
THAT'S NOT POSSIBLE ...
SMILE
SMILE
I-I'M SURE YOU HAVE YOUR REASONS —
O-OH MY GOD. HE'S ACTUALLY A...
CLACK
!!?

THE FRUITS OF CARE

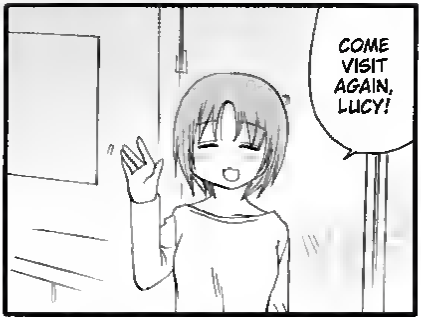
WE MISSED THE LAST TRAIN, AND I DUNNO YOUR ADDRESS.
LUCKILY, HER PLACE WAS WITHIN WALKING DISTANCE.
SO I ASKED HER TO LET US STAY.



HASEBE'S SISTER

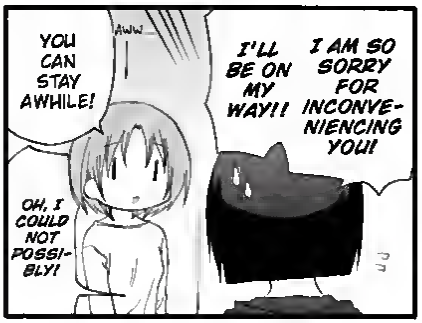


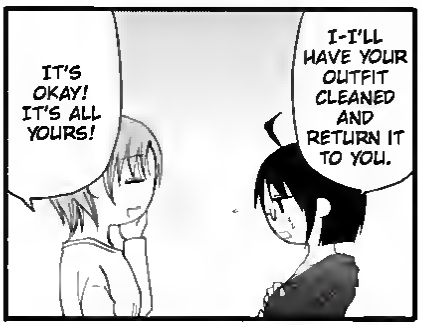
ALL-NIGHT INCONVENIENCE

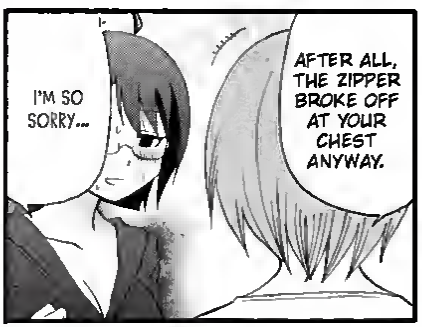


TERRIBLE INCONVENIENCE

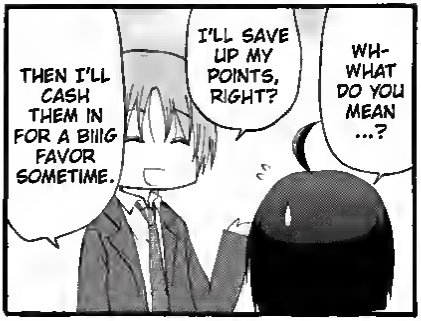
GREAT. I DIDN'T WANNA HAVE TO DO ANY AWKWARD HINTING THIS EARLY IN THE DAY.
OH, YOU CAUGHT ON?
I GET IT NOW. THANK YOU!!
O-OH, A HOTEL —
SMART GIRL!

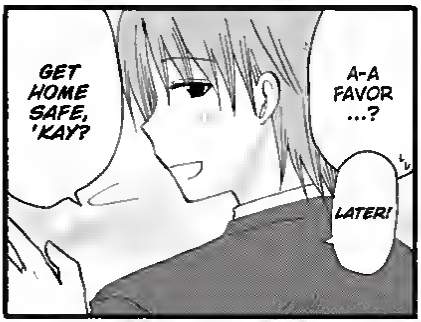


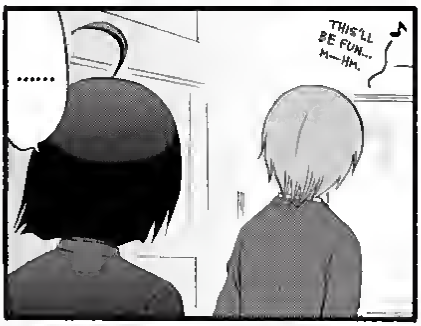




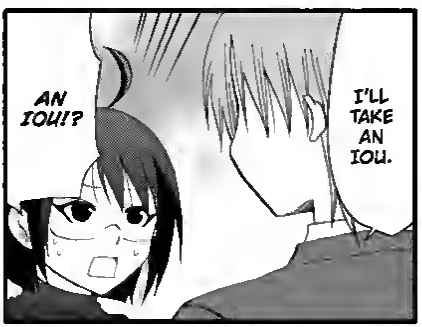
HINDSIGHT IS ALWAYS 20/20





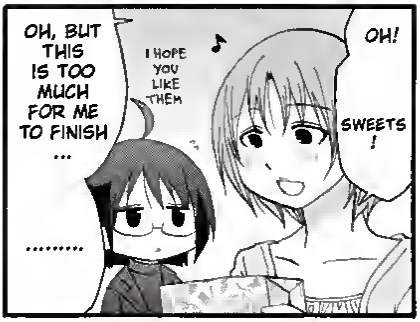


LUCY'S APOLOGY



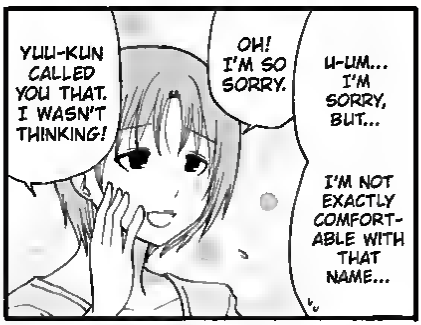
LETTING A COMPLETE STRANGER SPEND THE NIGHT AT HER HOUSE...
HASEBE-SAN'S SISTER WAS SUCH A NICE PERSON ...
OUR MAIN CHARACTER SPENT THE NIGHT WITH (KAORU) HASEBE.
LAST TIME—
OH!
AL-THOUGH ...
STILL, I NEED TO APOLOGIZE FOR YESTERDAY, AND SHOW MY APPRE-CIATION.
IS IT BAD FORM FOR ME TO DROP BY ON A SUNDAY?
SERVANT × SERVICE
SHE'S CALLING ME LUCY SO NATURALLY ...
WHAT'S UUUP?
IT'S LUUUCYYY! ♥
THEY'RE DEFINITELY SIBLINGS
WORK:22

JUST THRILLED



PERFECT SIBLINGS

YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE! AREN'T YOU A LITTLE SWEET-HEART?
AWW, LUCY!
AND COMPENSATION FOR THE CLOTHES.
A GIFT. MY THANKS FOR THE OTHER DAY.



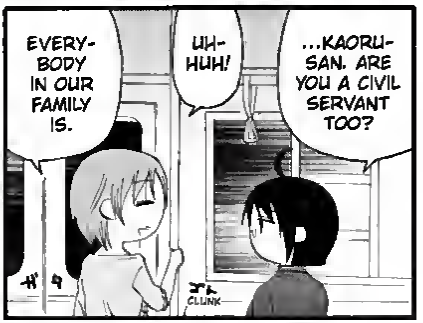
HELLO?
ぴんぽーん
DING-DONG
KA CHAK
が
ちゃ

AH! GLASSES!

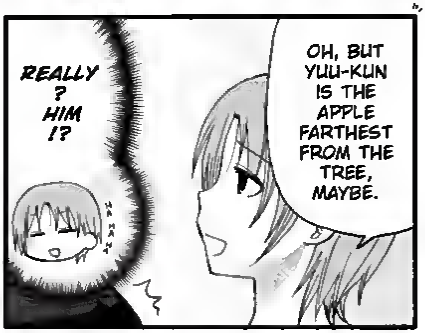
ば
たん
SLAM

が
KA-CHAK
ちゃ
AH, BACK TO NORMAL ...
..... WHAT UP?

EXCUSE ME, HASEBE-SAN'S SISTER?
HEE HEE!
THAT'S TOO LOOONG.
CALL ME KAORU.
ガチ CLUNK ゴト

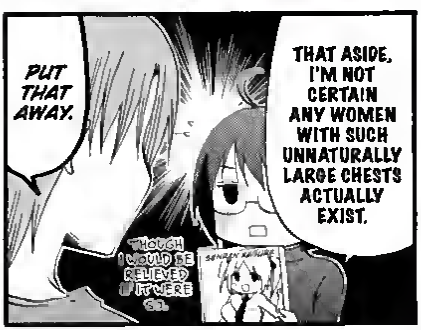

...KAORU-SAN. ARE YOU A CIVIL SERVANT TOO?
UH-HUH!
EVERY-BODY IN OUR FAMILY IS.
ガチ
CLUNK ゴト

WE'RE A FAMILY OF SLAPHAPPY PEOPLE TOO.
DEVIL-MAY-CARE
O-OH DEAR ...
TOO MANY HASEBE SANS

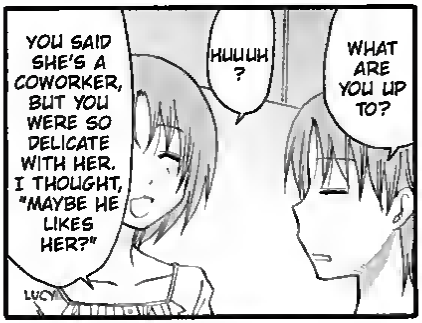

OH, BUT YUU-KUN IS THE APPLE FARTHEST FROM THE TREE, MAYBE.
REALLY ? HIM !?
HA KA

LUCY'S INTEREST

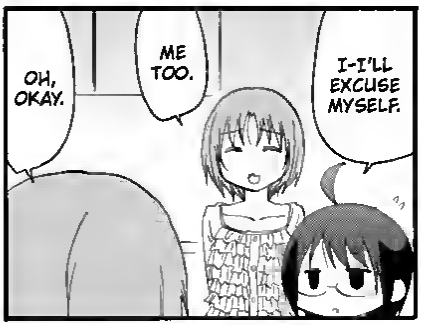
... A GAME CAN'T GET MAD AT ME WHEN I GET A HIGH SCORE, RIGHT?
MM...
YOU DID THAT YESTERDAY TOO
YOU CERTAINLY LIKE YOUR VIDEO GAMES, DON'T YOU?


PUT THAT AWAY.
THAT ASIDE, I'M NOT CERTAIN ANY WOMEN WITH SUCH UNNATURALLY LARGE CHESTS ACTUALLY EXIST.
THOUGH I WOULD BE RELIEVED IF WERE SO.
SENSEN NATURE

PURE FEELINGS



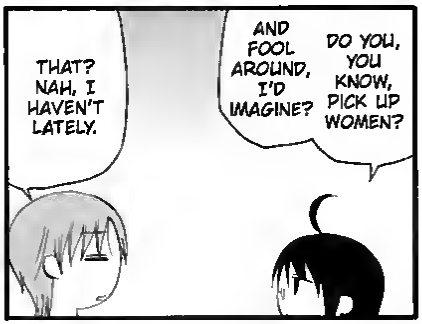
MM, I WONDER WHY? MAYBE IT'S FROM STAYING UP.
YOU LOOK WORN OUT, HASEBE-SAN.

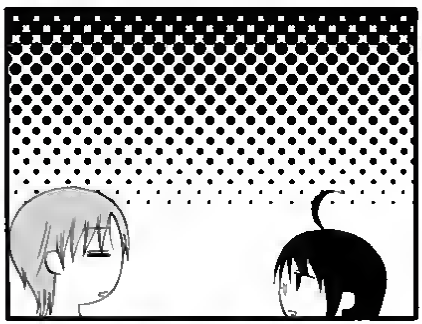

OH, OKAY.
ME TOO.
I-I'LL EXCUSE MYSELF.

OH, NO.
ACTUALLY, SORRY ABOUT MY SISTER.
SORRY FOR NOT BEING MUCH OF A HOST.
I'M SORRY FOR THE SUDDEN INTRUSION.

DON'T CARE. JUST GO HOME.
I HAD SUCH A LOVELY TIME!

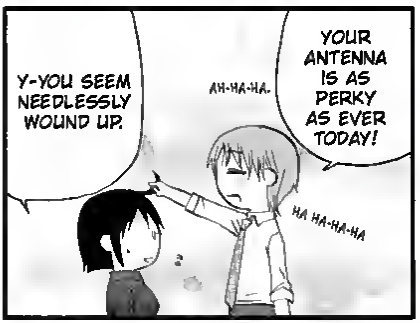
SURE, IF A FRIEND INVITES ME OUT, I GO.
I SAID PUT IT BACK.
THEY LOOK HEAVY
I ASSUMED YOU SPENT YOUR WEEKENDS OUT SOCIALIZING.


THAT? NAH, I HAVEN'T LATELY.
AND FOOL AROUND, I'D IMAGINE?
DO YOU, YOU KNOW, PICK UP WOMEN?

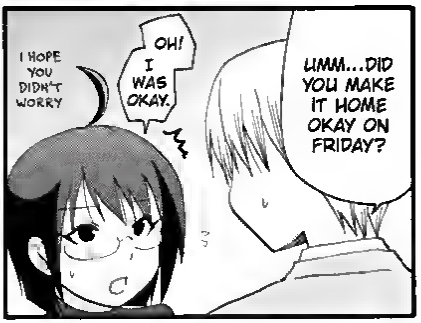


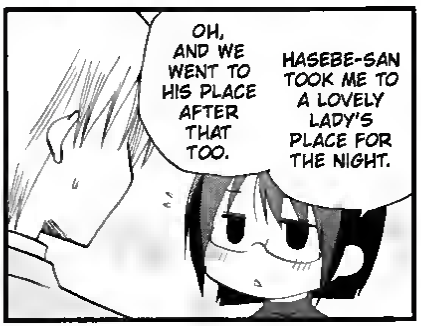
BECAUSE I JUST ASKED YOU OUT!!
WHY NOT?

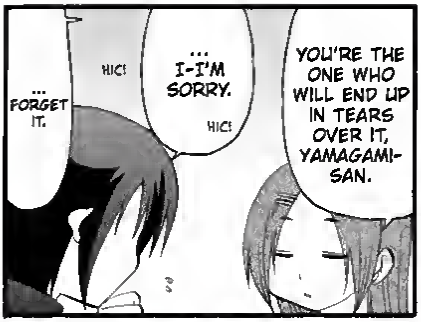
NE'ER-DO-WELL



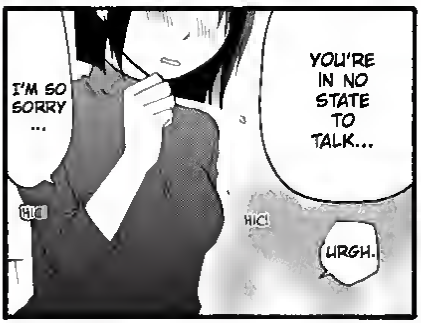
PROBLEMATIC WEEKEND

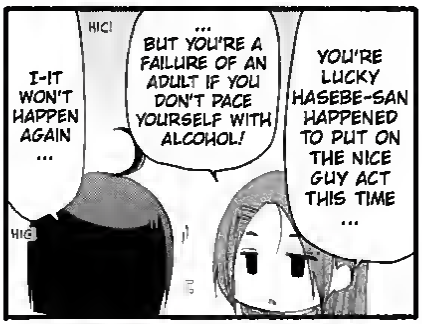





HIC!
... FORGET IT.
... I-I'M SORRY.
HIC!
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO WILL END UP IN TEARS OVER IT, YAMAGAMI-SAN.

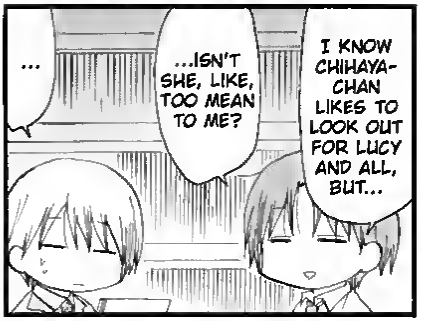
...YOU GOT WASTED AT A COMPANY PARTY AND LET HASEBE-SAN TAKE YOU HOME?
HONESTLY... WHILE I WAS GONE FOR A MEMORIAL SERVICE ...

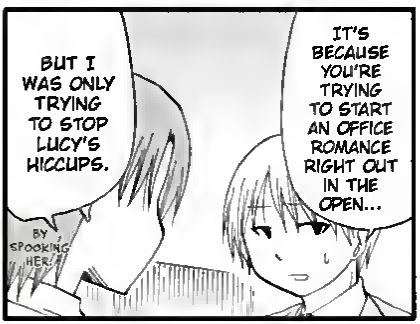

I'M SO SORRY ...
HIC!
YOU'RE IN NO STATE TO TALK...
HIC!
URGH.


HIC!
I-IT WON'T HAPPEN AGAIN ...
HIC!
... BUT YOU'RE A FAILURE OF AN ADULT IF YOU DON'T PACE YOURSELF WITH ALCOHOL!
YOU'RE LUCKY HASEBE-SAN HAPPENED TO PUT ON THE NICE GUY ACT THIS TIME ...

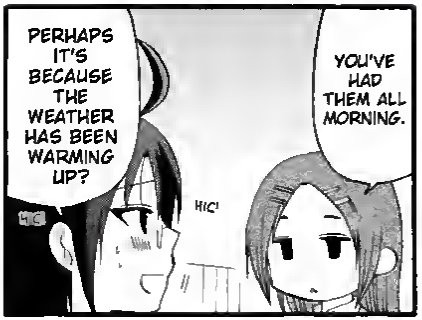
SERVANT X SERVICE
HIC!
I KNOW ...
HIC!
THOSE HICCUPS JUST WON'T STOP, WILL THEY?
WORK:23

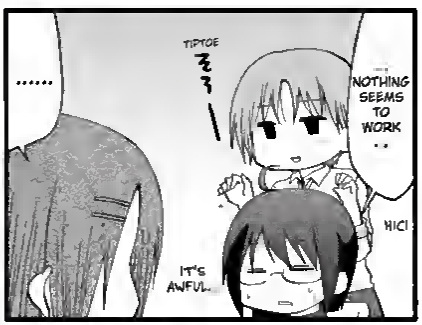
COMPLETELY UNPERSUASIVE

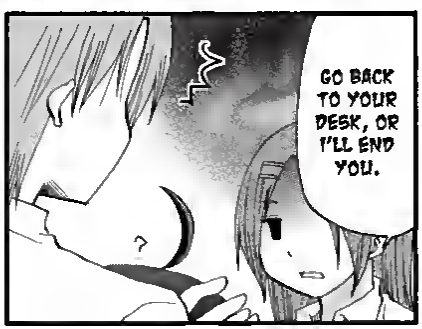



BUT I WAS ONLY TRYING TO STOP LUCY'S HICCUPS.
BY SPOOKING HER
IT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE TRYING TO START AN OFFICE ROMANCE RIGHT OUT IN THE OPEN...

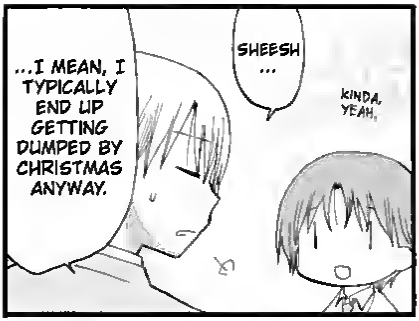
OH, I'LL STOP YOU

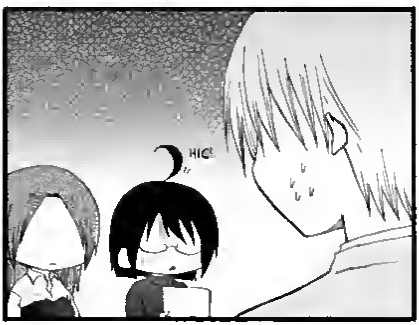




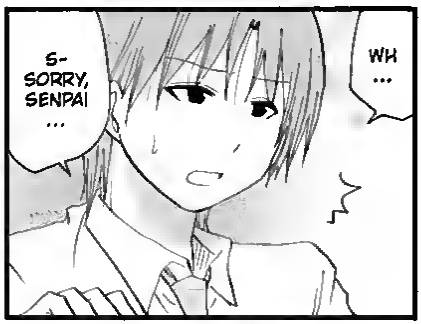


SECRETS





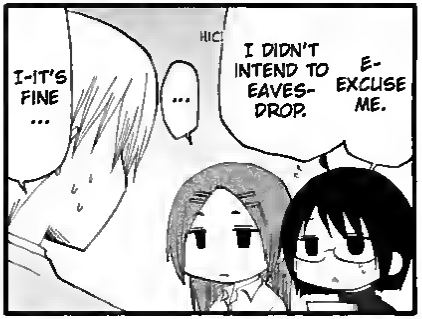
GIRLFRIEND CONFIRMED

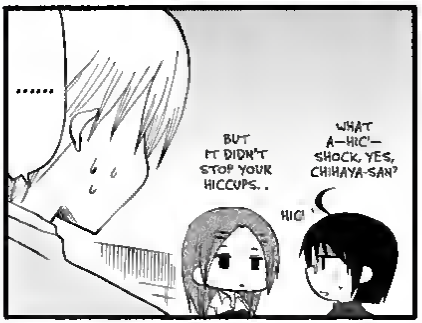


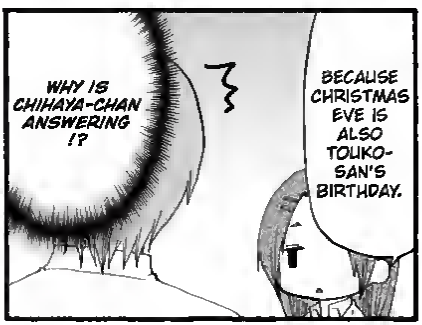
ARE YOU SERIOUSLY CONVINCED THAT MY KID SISTER IS THE ONLY FEMALE IN MY LIFE?
I DIDN'T KNOW YOU AND TOUKO-CHAN AREN'T BIOLOGICAL SIBLINGS...

A REASON TO BE DUMPED

THE TRUTH ABOUT CHRISTMAS EVE

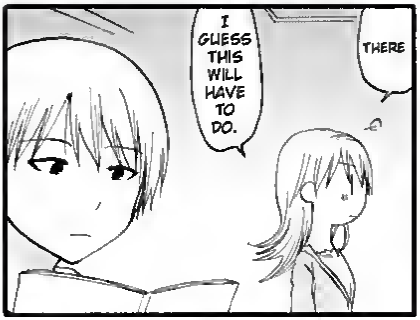


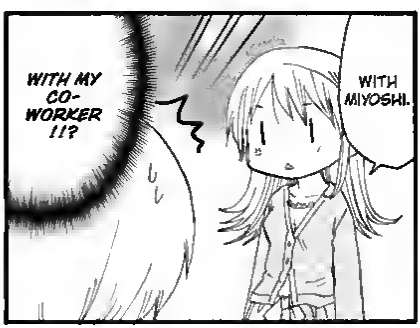




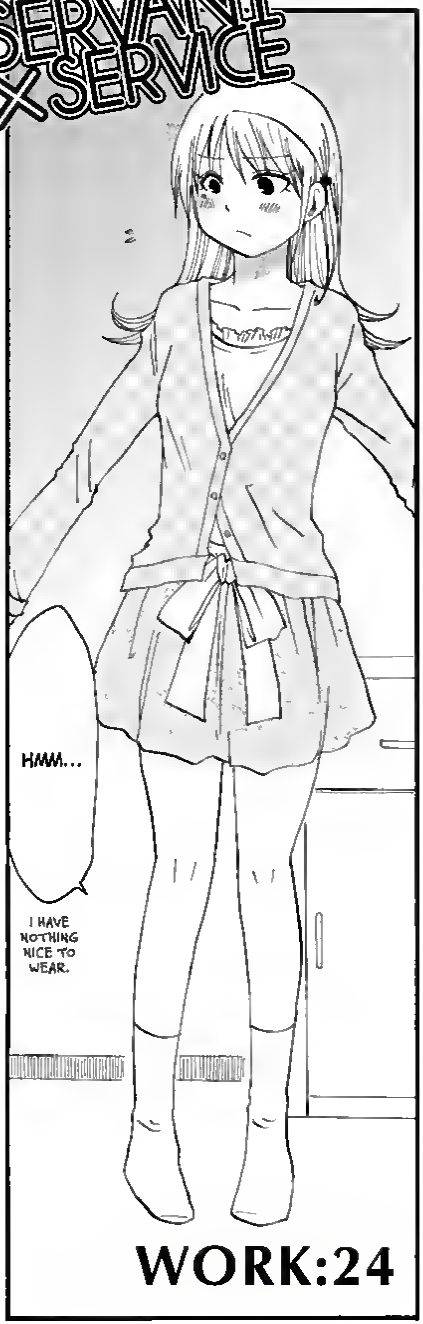
PSYCH
CURRENT GIRLFRIEND
O-OH ...
HIC!
OKAY.
SO THEY LASTED PAST THE FIRST YEAR MARK.
BUT HIS CURRENT GIRLFRIEND IS BUSY DURING THE CHRISTMAS SEASON, HERSELF.
;;PSYCH!
THAT WAS A JOKE.
WASN'T IT, ICHIMIYA-SAN?
YES, I DO ...
YOU KNOW THE WHOLE STORY, HMM?
HIC!
JUST A JOKE ...
Y—
Y...
YUP.
J...
YEAH?
BECAUSE I AM THE "CURRENT GIRLFRIEND."
I CAN'T EVEN...
YOU THREW ME FOR A LOOP!
OHH, YOU WERE JUST JOKING?
!!!?

INCREDIBLY PERSUASIVE
STOPPED
.....
STARE
...I THINK I GET WHY CHIHAYA-CHAN HAS A BEEF AGAINST ME NOW.
SO THEY DID!
GASP!
YAMAGAMI-SAN, YOUR HICCUPS STOPPED.
.....
TO GIVE UP ON AN OFFICE ROMANCE?
YOU GONNA SAY IT AGAIN?
STARE
NOT AT ALL ...
THANK YOU SO MUCH!
CHIHAYA-SAN, YOU MADE THAT JOKE TO STOP MY HICCUPS, DIDN'T YOU?
I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN
DON'T DO IT.
JUST DON'T DO IT.
...YEAH, I'LL SAY IT.
UH... OKAY?
HUH?
FOR WHAT?
YOU HAVE MY THANKS TOO, ICHIMIYA-SAN.
THERE'S A LOT MORE WEIGHT TO HIS WORDS THIS TIME.
SO DON'T.
IT'S SO STRESSFUL
MY HEART JUST ABOUT STOPPED.
BOW
YOU HELPED STOP MY HICCUPS!!



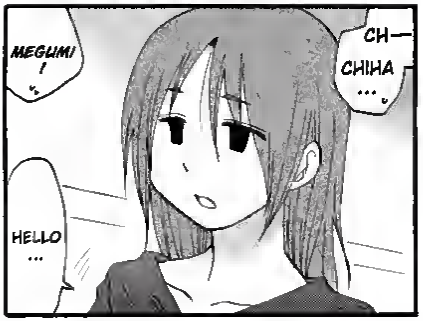


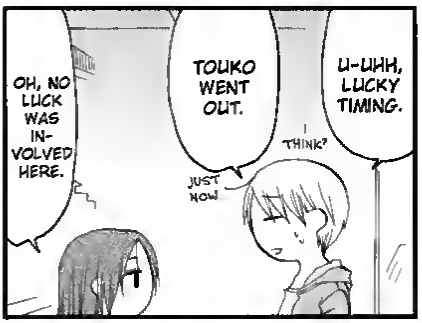
SERVANT x SERVICE



WORK:24

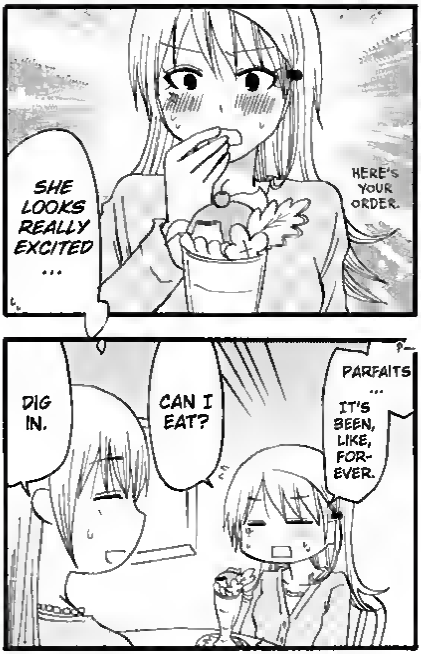
DESTINY



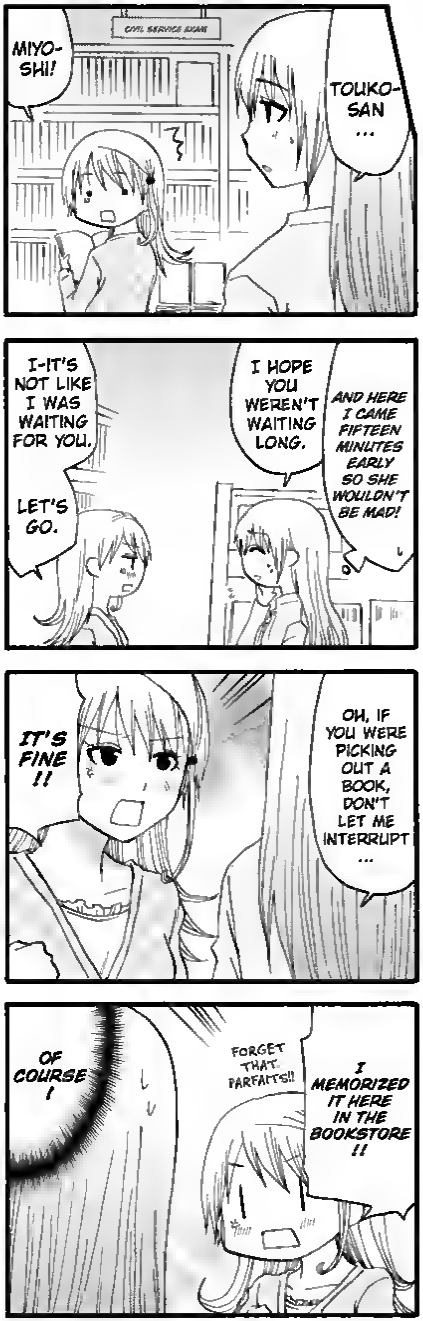


TROUBLESOME KID

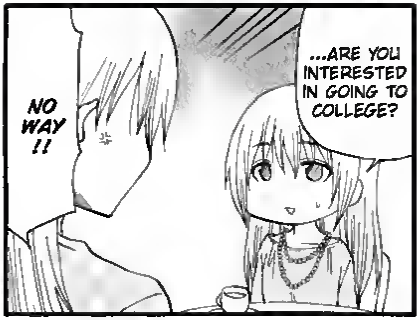
PARFAIT MAX

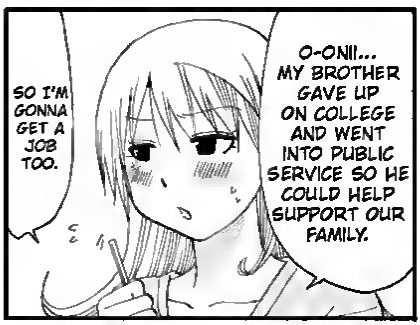

SHE LOOKS REALLY EXCITED ...
HERE'S YOUR ORDER.
DIG IN.
CAN I EAT?
PARFAITS ... IT'S BEEN, LIKE, FOR-EVER.
ARE YOU GOING TO BECOME A CIVIL SERVANT LIKE YOUR BROTHER?
YOU WERE READING A BOOK ABOUT THE CIVIL SERVICE EXAM, CORRECT?
O-OH. WE CAN TALK AFTER YOU'VE FINISHED ...
I WASN'T LISTENING!!
HUH?
WH—
WHAT?

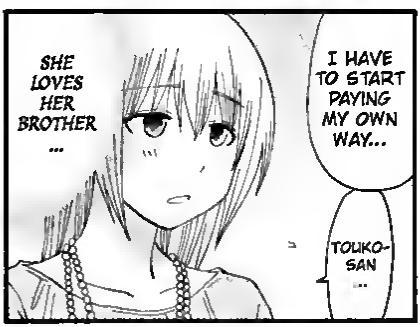
TALENTED PEOPLE

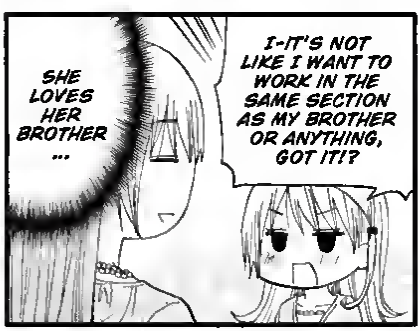

CIVIL SERVICE EXAM
MIYO-SHI!
TOUKO-SAN ...
I-IT'S NOT LIKE I WAS WAITING FOR YOU.
LET'S GO.
I HOPE YOU WEREN'T WAITING LONG.
AND HERE I CAME FIFTEEN MINUTES EARLY SO SHE WOULDN'T BE MAD!
IT'S FINE !!
OH, IF YOU WERE PICKING OUT A BOOK, DON'T LET ME INTERRUPT ...
OF COURSE !
FORGET THAT. PARFAITS!!
I MEMORIZED IT HERE IN THE BOOKSTORE !!

ALL FOR A CERTAIN SOMEONE

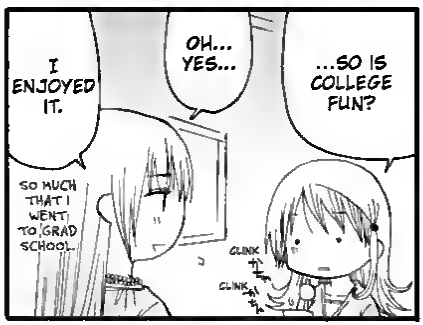


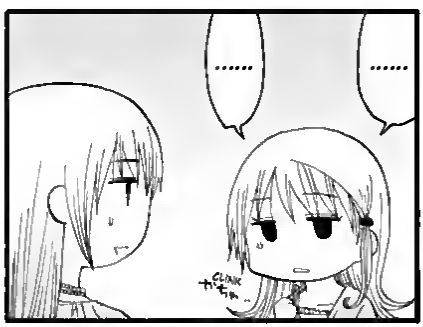

SO I'M GONNA GET A JOB TOO.
O-ONII... MY BROTHER GAVE UP ON COLLEGE AND WENT INTO PUBLIC SERVICE SO HE COULD HELP SUPPORT OUR FAMILY.

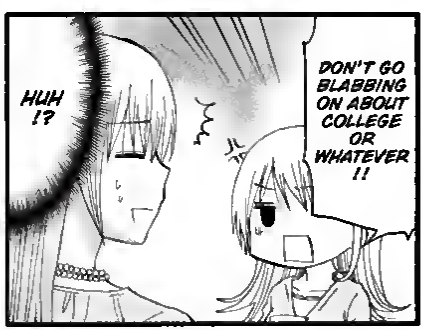




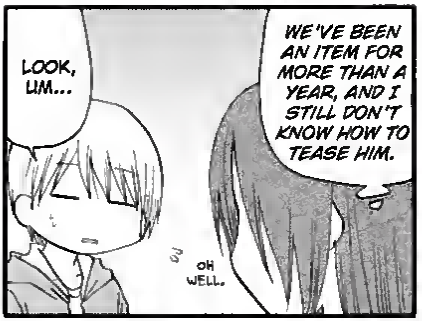
TABOO WORD





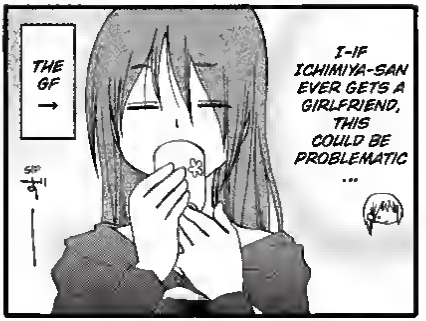


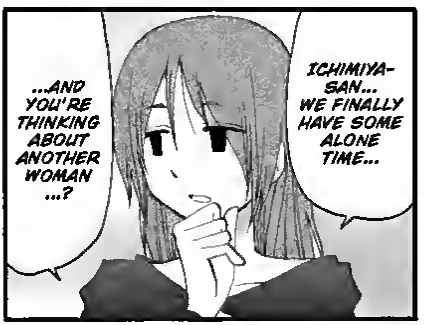
WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?



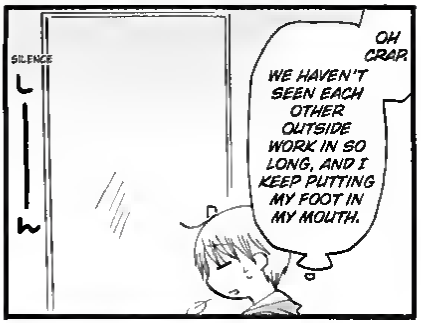
OH, UH, YEAH, I GUESS SO, BUT I BROUGHT IT UP...
...SO, UH ...
...I'M THE ONE WHO DID THAT.
SORRY ABOUT SPILLING THE BEANS TO HASEBE AND YAMAGAMI-SAN...

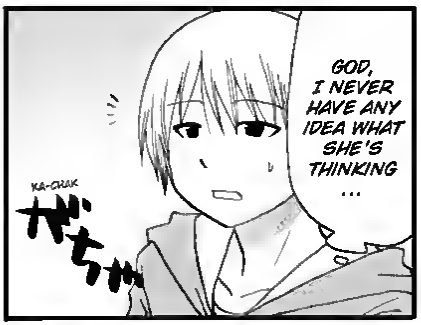
ICHIMIYA'S GF

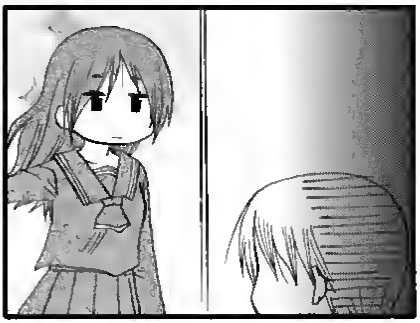




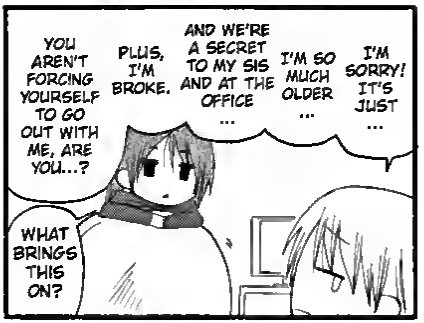
RETURN OF THE GF

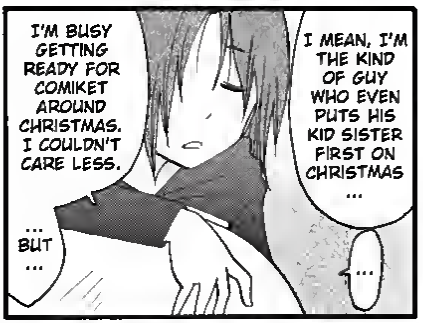


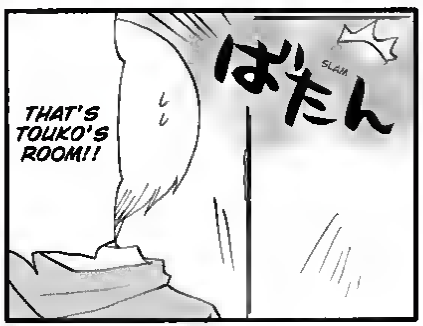




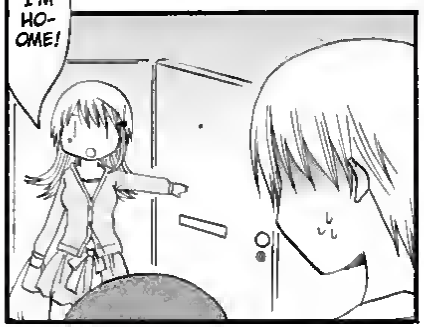
GF STORMING OUT


YOU AREN'T FORCING YOURSELF TO GO OUT WITH ME, ARE YOU...?
PLUS, I'M BROKE.
AND WE'RE A SECRET TO MY SIS AND AT THE OFFICE ...
I'M SO MUCH OLDER ...
I'M SORRY! IT'S JUST ...
WHAT BRINGS THIS ON?

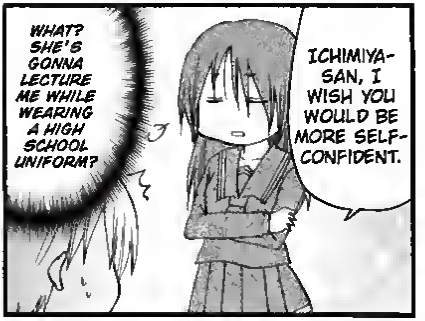

I'M BUSY GETTING READY FOR COMIKET AROUND CHRISTMAS. I COULDN'T CARE LESS.
... BUT ...
I MEAN, I'M THE KIND OF GUY WHO EVEN PUTS HIS KID SISTER FIRST ON CHRISTMAS ...
...

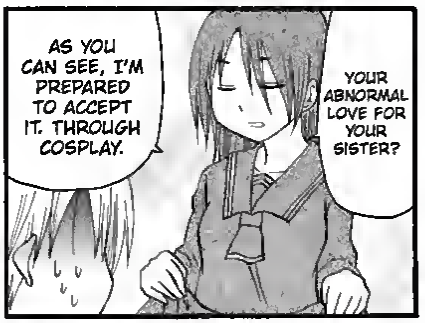


SURPRISE GF

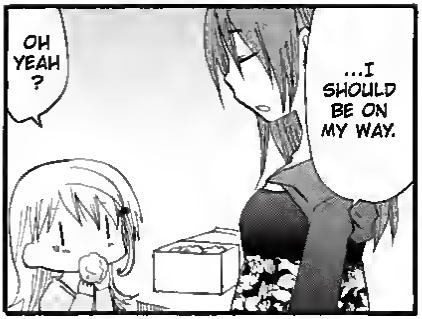


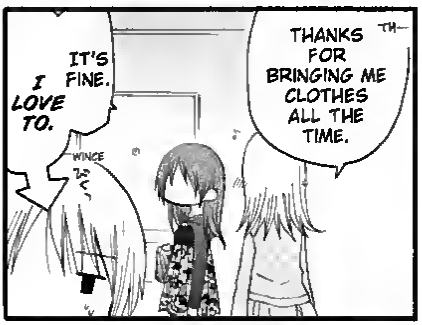
BELOVED GF



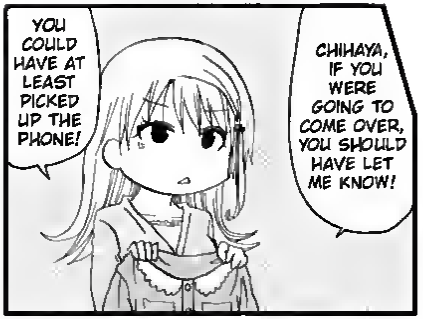


A TRYING DAY

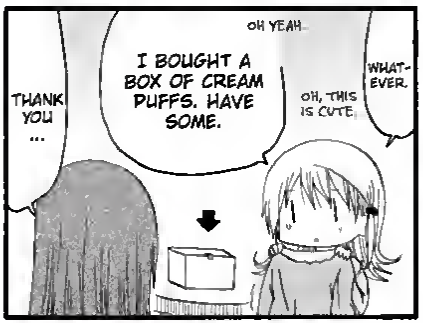


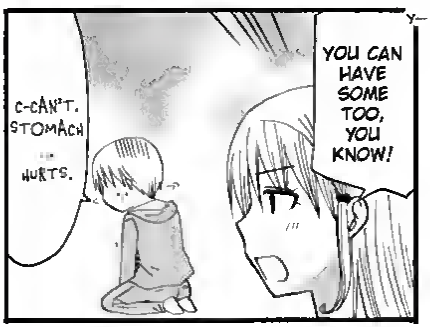


PLAYING BY EAR



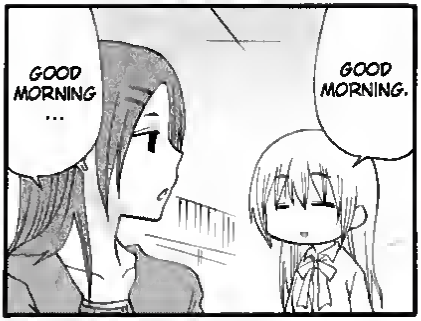
...BUT WHY ARE YOU WEARING MY UNIFORM?
LIKE, THAT'S NICE...
I FINISHED THE DRESS I WAS MAKING FOR YOU...
IT REMINDED ME OF HIGH SCHOOL, AND I COULDN'T HELP MYSELF..
...AND I WANTED TO GET IT TO YOU RIGHT AWAY.

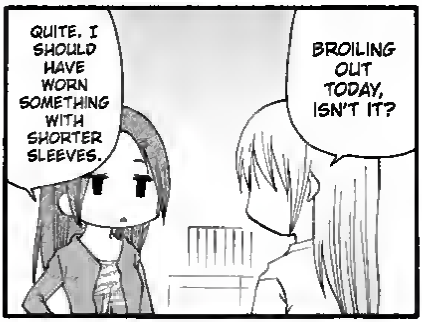


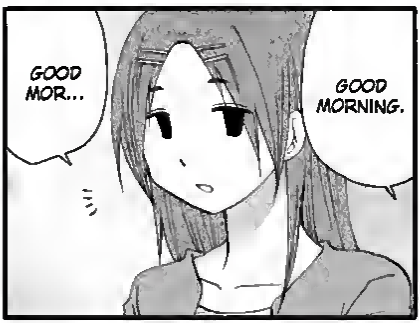


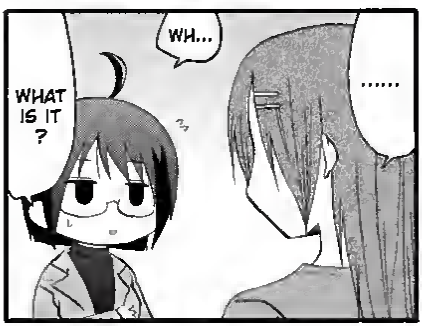
I NEED TO PULL MYSELF TOGETHER ...
TWITCH
AH...
LIFE HAS BEEN A WHIRLWIND SINCE I STARTED WORKING.
WHEW ...
AH-CHOO!
SNAP
IT FEELS AS THOUGH I DON'T QUITE HAVE MY ACT TOGETHER
ACTUALLY, I DON'T AT ALL!
PEOPLE KEEP HAVING TO BAIL ME OUT, I GOT MYSELF DRUNK...
ONE OF MY BRA HOOKS JUST SNAPPED...
SERVANT X SERVICE
WORK.25

SUNNY DAY

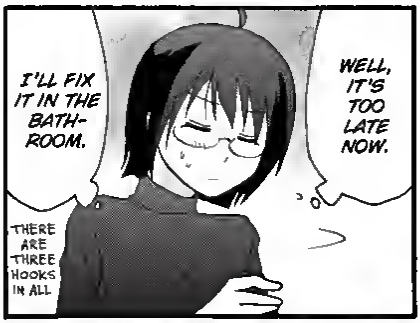




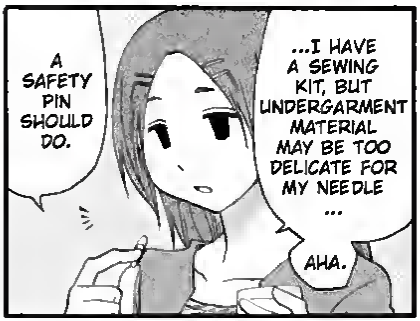


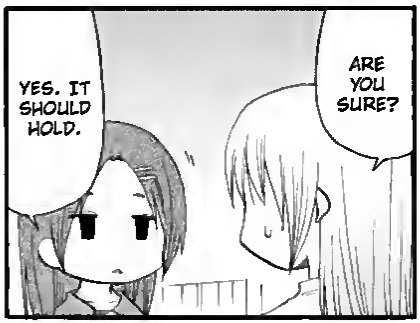


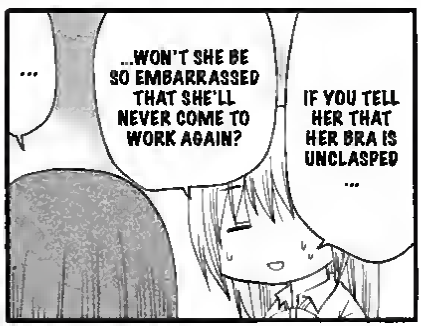
NEGLIGENCE



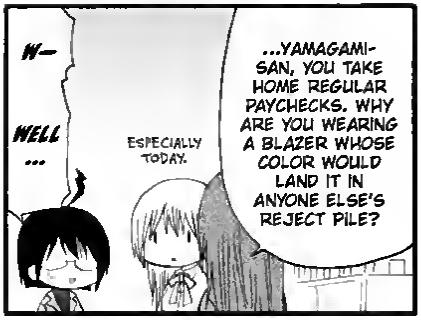
A DELICATE MATTER





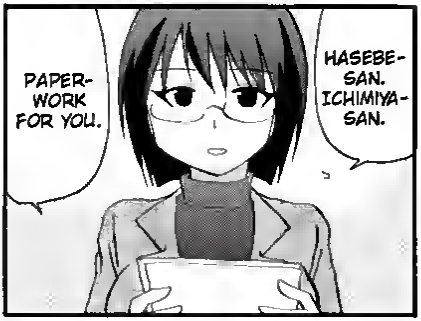


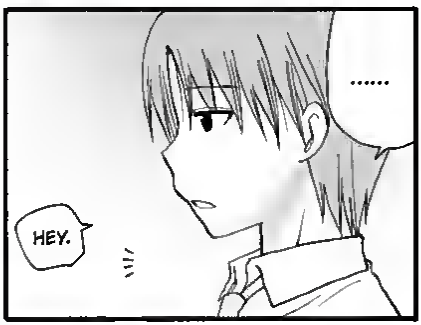
THE ODD TOP OUT

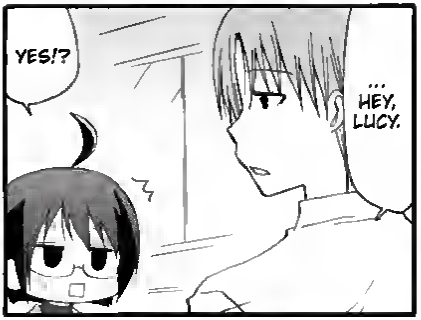

W—
WELL ...
ESPECIALLY TODAY.
...YAMAGAMI-SAN, YOU TAKE HOME REGULAR PAYCHECKS. WHY ARE YOU WEARING A BLAZER WHOSE COLOR WOULD LAND IT IN ANYONE ELSE'S REJECT PILE?

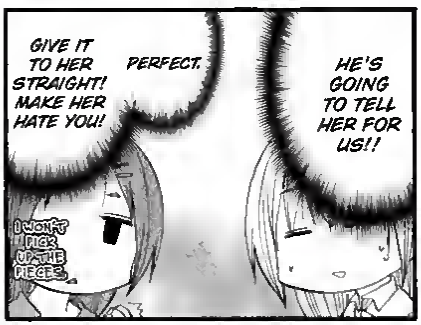
AN OBSERVANT GUY ②

AN OBSERVANT GUY ①

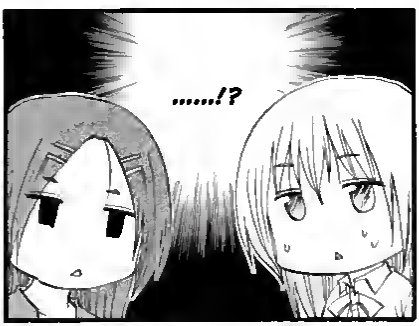


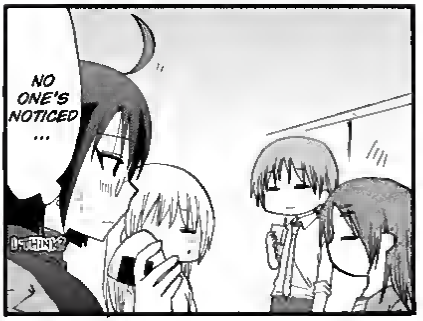


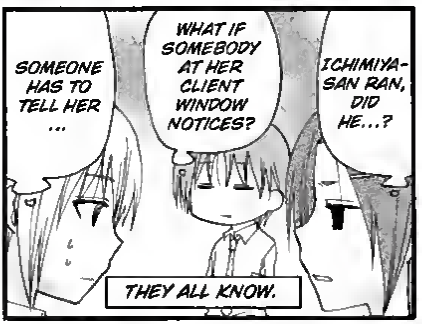

YES!?
... HEY, LUCY.


GIVE IT TO HER STRAIGHT! MAKE HER HATE YOU!
PERFECT.
HE'S GOING TO TELL HER FOR US!!
I WON'T PICK UP THE PIECES.

DO YOU HAVE A COLD?
.....


.....!?

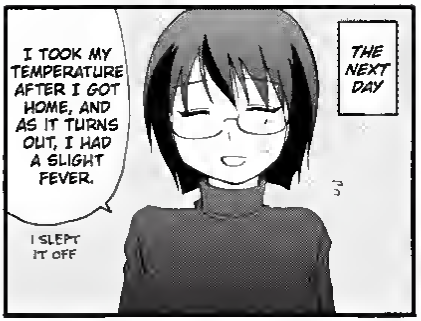

NO ONE'S NOTICED ...
I-I THINK?

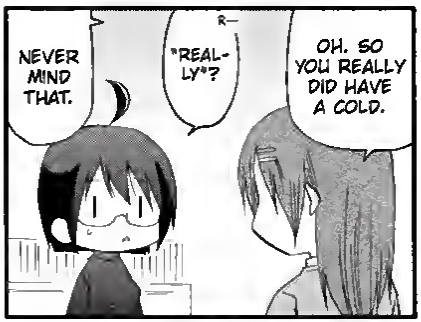

SOMEONE HAS TO TELL HER ...
WHAT IF SOMEBODY AT HER CLIENT WINDOW NOTICES?
ICHIMIYA-SAN RAN, DID HE...?
THEY ALL KNOW.

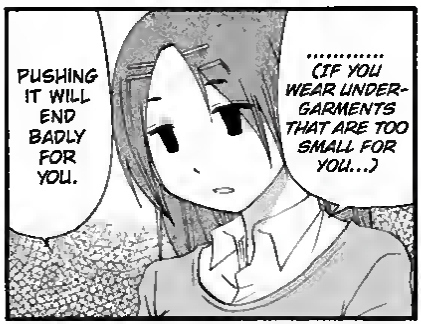
..... D-DOESN'T IT FEEL A BIT... SUFFO-CATING...?
AH HA HA...
Y-YES!?
びくっ
BWRK
E-EXCUSE ME, YAMAGAMI-SAN? YOUR CHEST...

I SHOULD THINK NOT!
NOT AT ALL, ACTUALLY ...

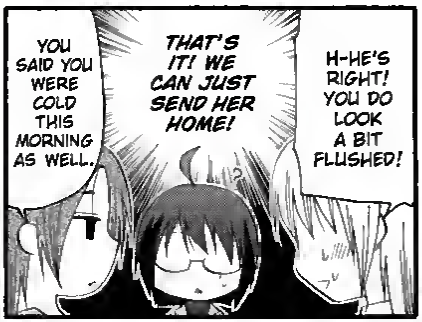
NO MORE PUSHING IT

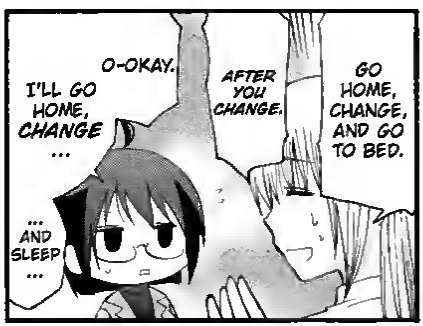






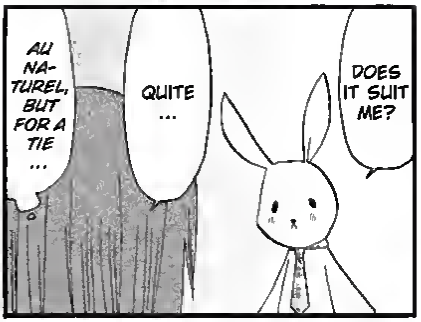
THE MOST VITAL PART

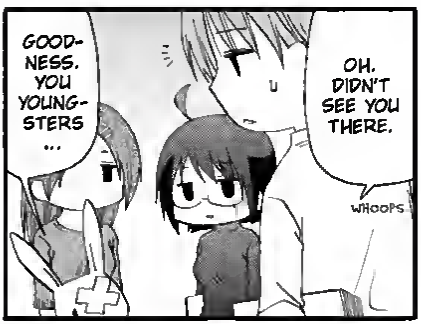




THE OTHER NEW HIRES AND MY SENIORS ARE ALL NICE PEOPLE.
AND MY BOSS IS...
Are you having any trouble with the people at work?
With your coworkers, or your seniors, or your boss ...?
Oh, i just got worried about you.
MOM, WHY ARE YOU CALLING ME FIRST THING IN THE MORNING?
GOOD MORNING TO YOU, YAMAGAMI-KUN!
YO!
...
THE BOSS
DON'T WORRY.
Are you so caught up in your book world that you're negiecting yourself in the real world?
SERVANT x SERVICE
OH DEAR, OH DEAR.
YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO HANG UP JUST TO SAY HELLO TO ME!
I'M HANGING UP NOW, MOM. I MADE IT TO THE OFFICE.
BOOP
GOOD MORNING.
WORK:26

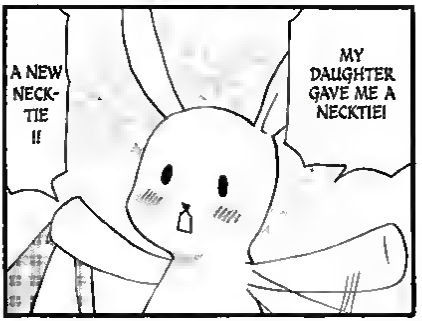
BIG PROBLEM

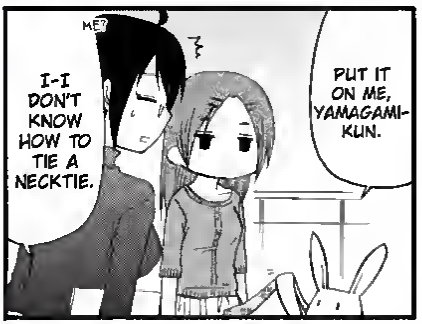


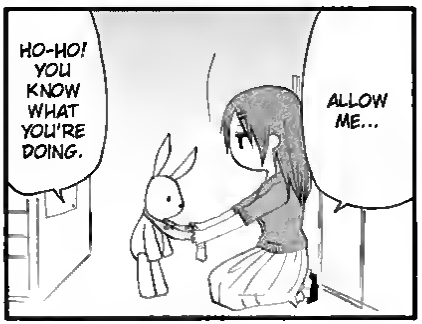


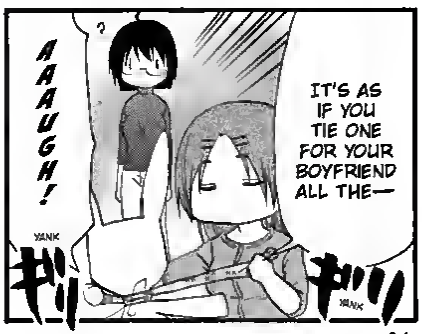
THE FACT THAT OUR BOSS IS A PLUSHIE WOULD BE THE BIGGER NEWS.
STRANGLING AND STEPPING ON YOUR SUPERIOR— THIS IS THE KIND OF THING THAT ENDS UP ON THE NEWS!

GOOD GIRL

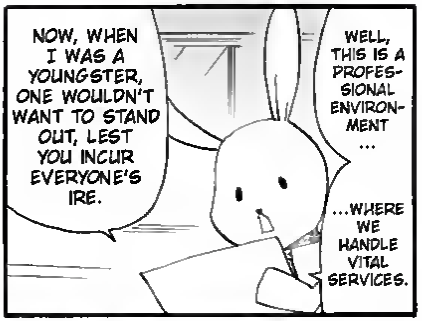


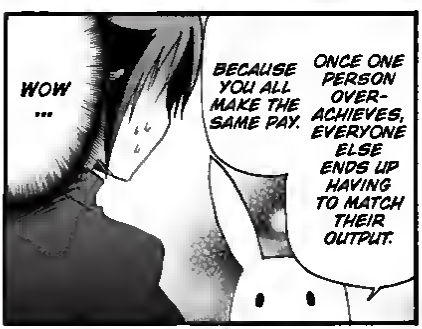




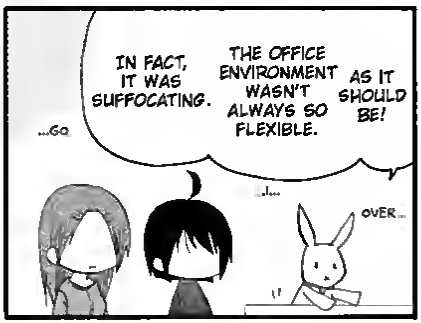


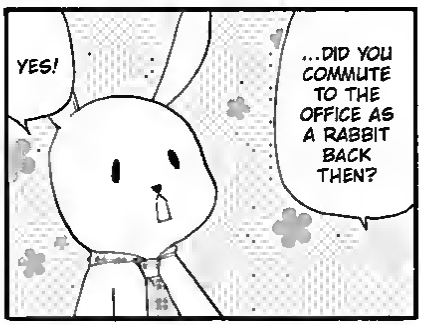
RULE OF THE OFFICE

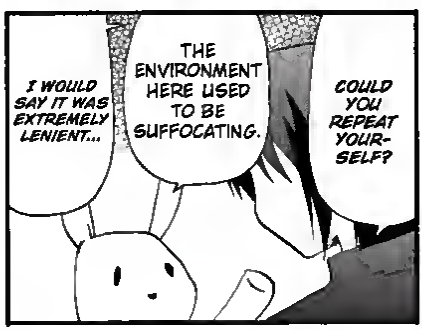

NOW, WHEN I WAS A YOUNGSTER, ONE WOULDN'T WANT TO STAND OUT, LEST YOU INCUR EVERYONE'S IRE.
WELL, THIS IS A PROFESSIONAL ENVIRONMENT ...
...WHERE WE HANDLE VITAL SERVICES.



PAST=PRESENT

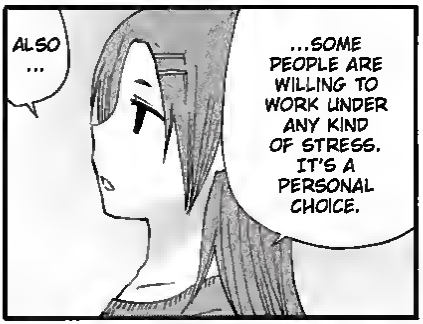


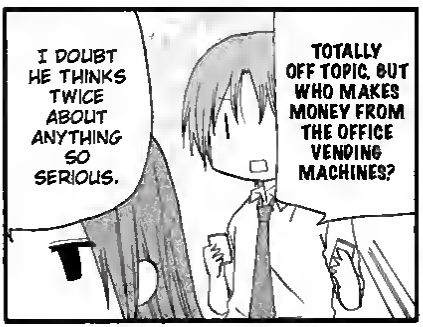




THE OBJECT OF CONCERN

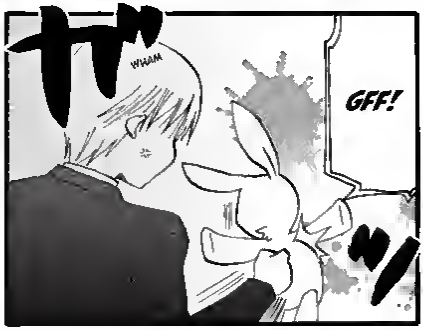
... PEOPLE GO THROUGH THINGS YOU COULDN'T EVEN IMAGINE, DON'T THEY?
I WORRY FOR THE YOUNGER HASEBE-KUN BECAUSE OF THAT EXPERIENCE ...

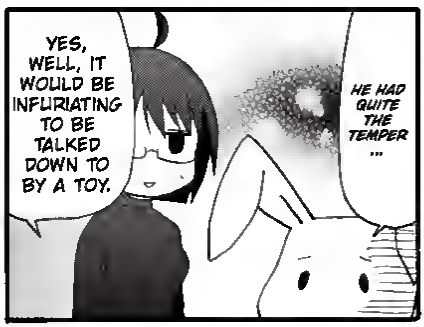



I DOUBT HE THINKS TWICE ABOUT ANYTHING SO SERIOUS.
TOTALLY OFF TOPIC, BUT WHO MAKES MONEY FROM THE OFFICE VENDING MACHINES?

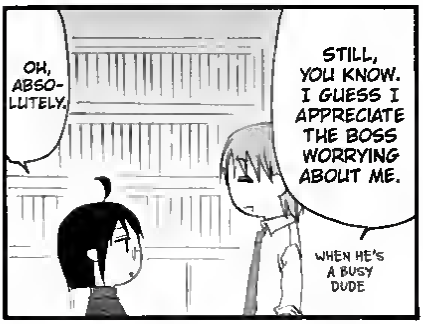
CONTEMPORARIES BOUND TOGETHER

OH, YOU WORKED TOGETHER?
HE WAS TORN OVER THE MATTER UNTIL HE GOT MARRIED AND HIS LIFE SETTLED DOWN.
HASEBE-KUN'S FATHER IN PARTICULAR WAS A POLISHED WORKER AND OFTEN GIVEN HELL FOR IT.
HERE!

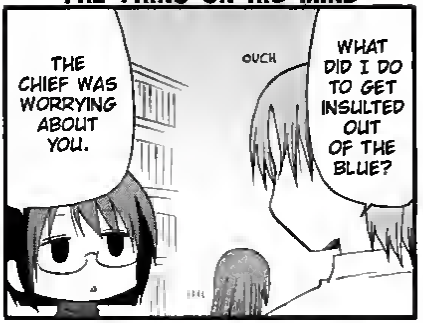




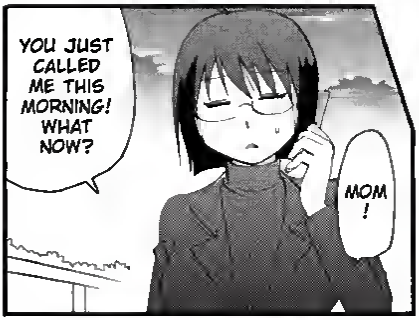
THE SOLE CONCERN

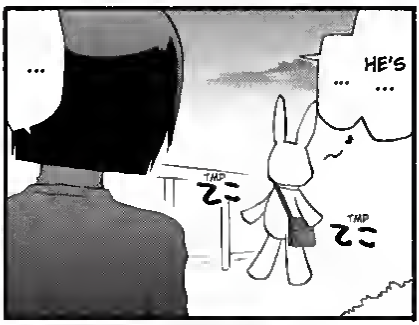


THE THING ON HIS MIND

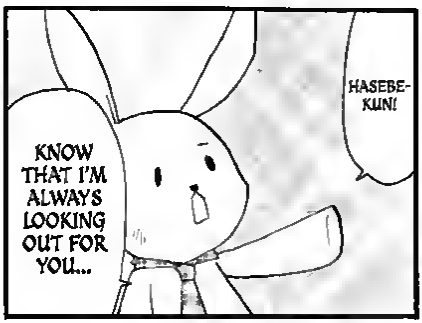


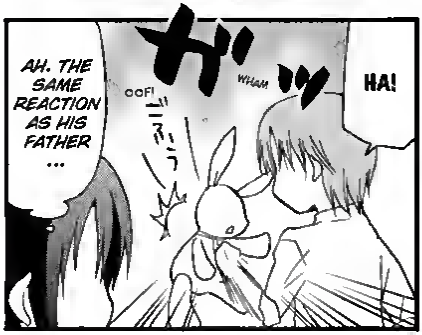
MY BOSS



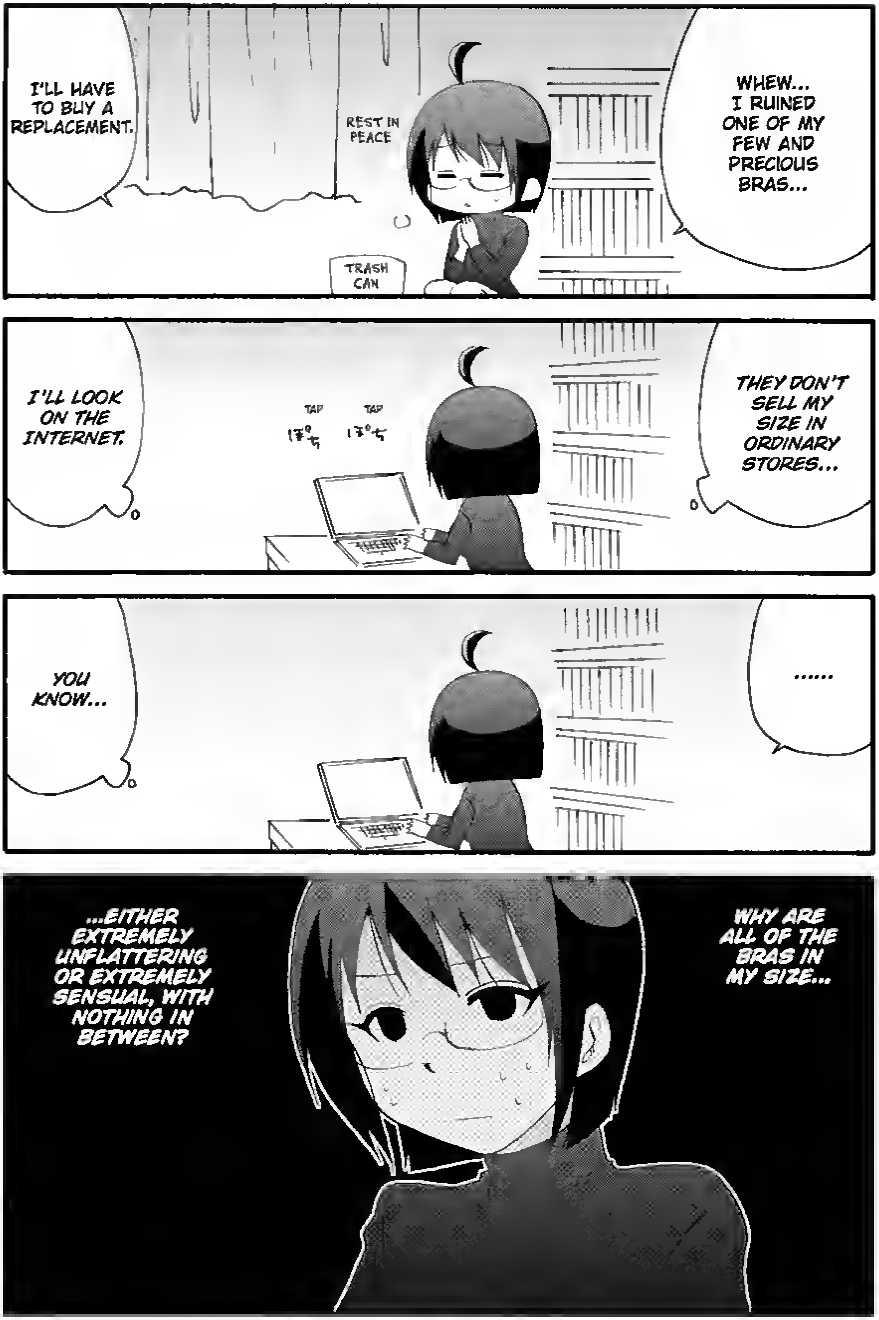


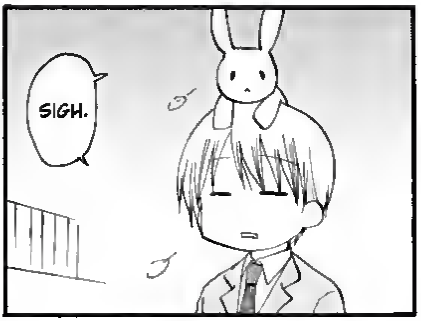
OVERLAPPING FIGURES

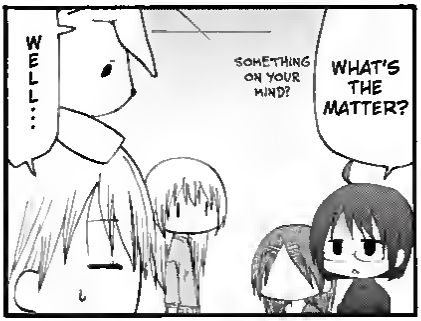




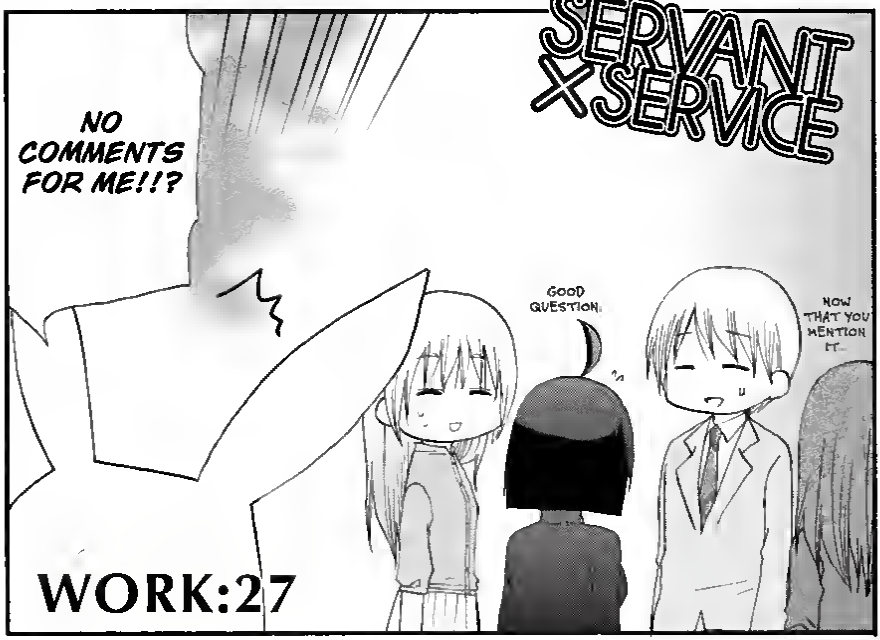
KAORU HASEBE 27 YEARS OLD
HASEBE'S OLDER SIS. IF I STOP PAYING ATTENTION, I END UP DRAWING HER AS HASEBE, SO I HAVE TO BE CAREFUL. I MEAN, SHE'S STILL A HASEBE, BUT YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN. FOR SOME REASON, THE OLDER SISTER CHARACTERS I DRAW ALWAYS TEND TO TURN OUT LIKE THIS.
I KNEW YOU'D SAY THAT...
YOU WANT TO STAY OVER? YUU-KUN, MY HOME ISN'T A ROMANTIC HOTEL.
WH...?
I TOLD YOU WE WERE COMING!
LOOK, IF WE SLEEP ANYWHERE ELSE, IT'S GONNA BE TONS OF SUCK LATER. JUST LET US STAY OVER.
DON'T SHOUT WEIRD CRAP LIKE THAT FROM YOUR DOORWAY IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT. JUST LET US INSIDE. I'M BEGGING YOU.
HAVE YOU BEEN PLAYING SO MANY PORN GAMES THAT NOW YOU THINK IT'S OKAY TO HAVE A THREE-WAY WITH YOUR GIRLFRIEND AND YOUR SISTER—
YUU-KUN!!


I'LL HAVE TO BUY A REPLACEMENT.
REST IN PEACE
TRASH CAN
WHEW... I RUINED ONE OF MY FEW AND PRECIOUS BRAS...
I'LL LOOK ON THE INTERNET.
TAP
TAP
THEY DON'T SELL MY SIZE IN ORDINARY STORES...
YOU KNOW...
.....
...EITHER EXTREMELY UNFLATTERING OR EXTREMELY SENSUAL, WITH NOTHING IN BETWEEN?
WHY ARE ALL OF THE BRAS IN MY SIZE...



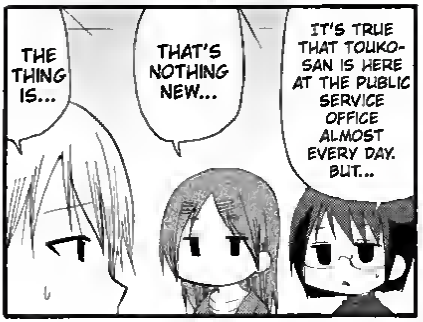


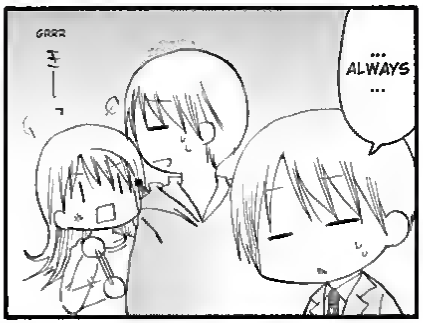
SERVANT × SERVICE



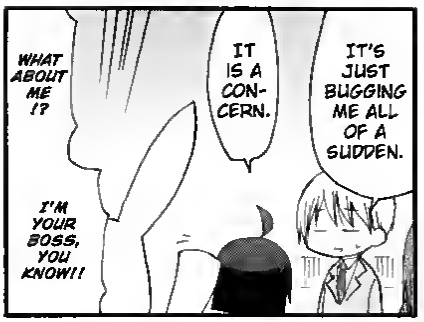
WORK:27

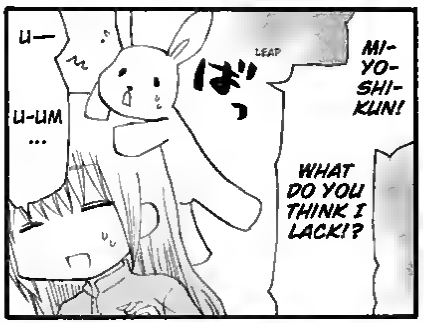
WORRIES FOR TOUKO

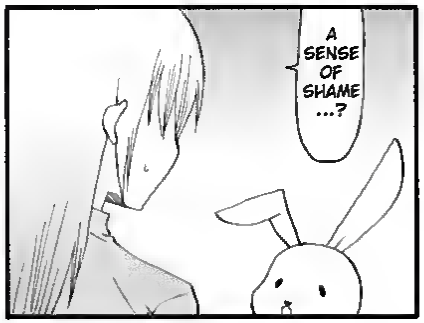


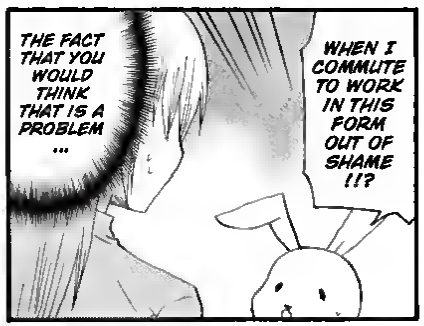


WHAT'S LACKING

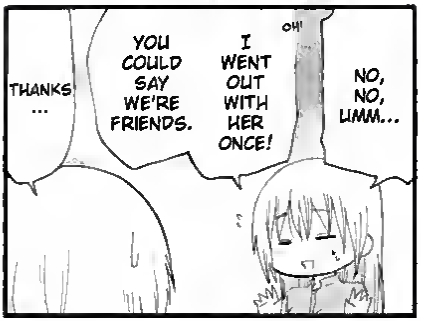




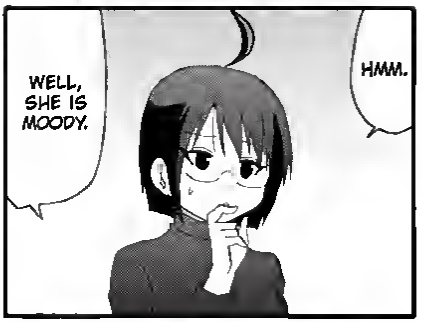


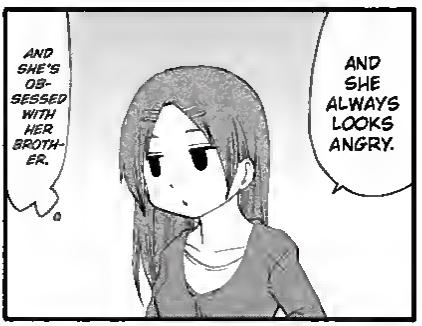


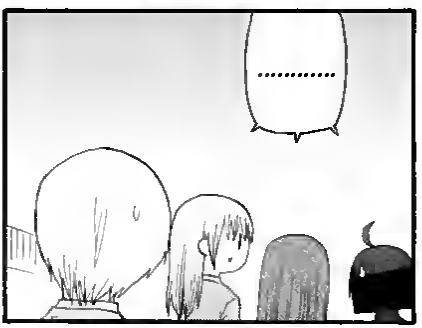
KIDS TOUKO'S AGE



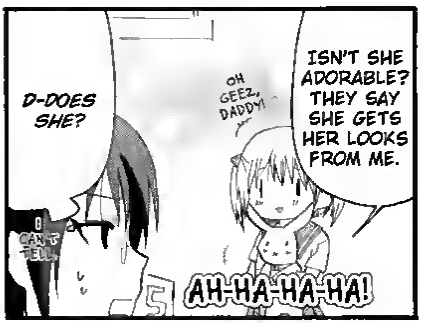
THE PROBLEM WITH TOUKO

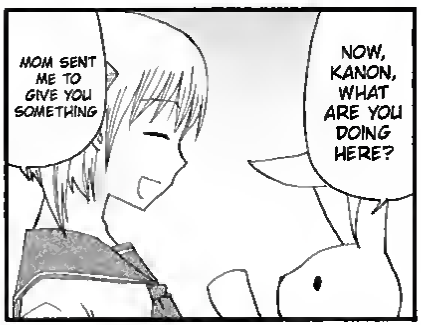






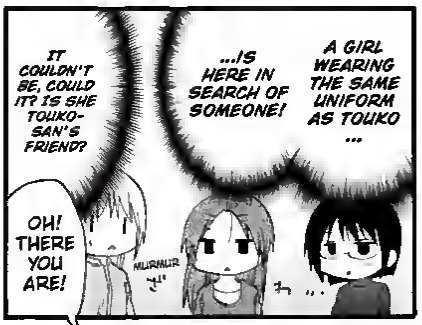
SO EMBARRASSING

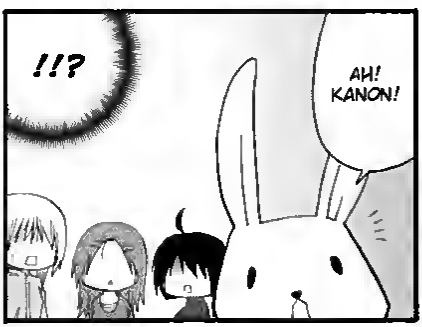




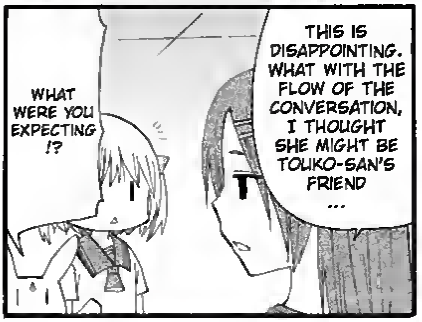
BUT YOU'RE NOT EMBARRASSED BY YOUR DAD BEING A BUNNY RABBIT?
AH HA HA HA!
OH GEEZ. SHOWING UP AT MY DAD'S WORK...I'M SOOO EMBARRASSED!

IT COULDN'T BE...

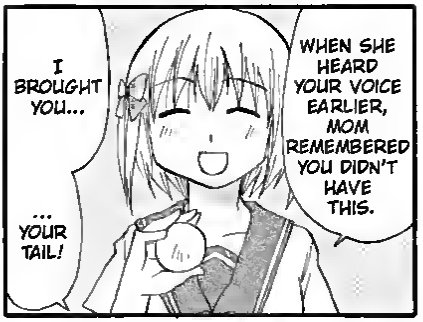

IT COULDN'T BE, COULD IT? IS SHE TOUKO-SAN'S FRIEND?
...IS HERE IN SEARCH OF SOMEONE!
A GIRL WEARING THE SAME UNIFORM AS TOUKO ...
OH! THERE YOU ARE!
MURMUR

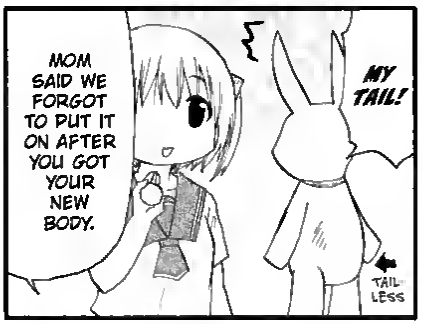


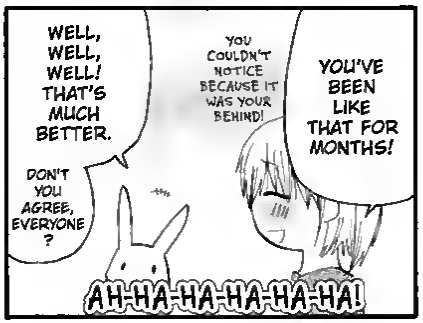
THOUGHT SHE WAS TOUKO'S FRIEND

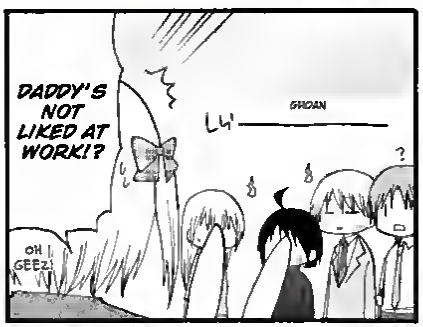

WHAT WERE YOU EXPECTING!?
THIS IS DISAPPOINTING. WHAT WITH THE FLOW OF THE CONVERSATION, I THOUGHT SHE MIGHT BE TOUKO-SAN'S FRIEND ...

WHAT WAS LACKING

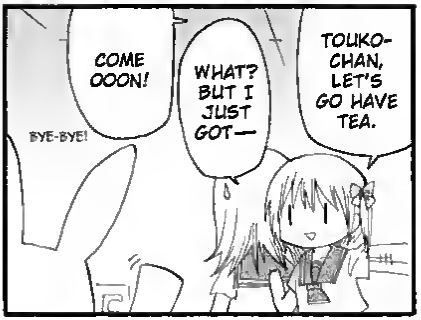


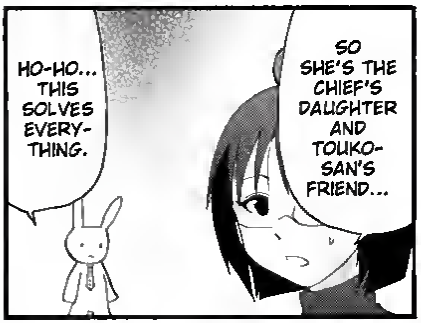


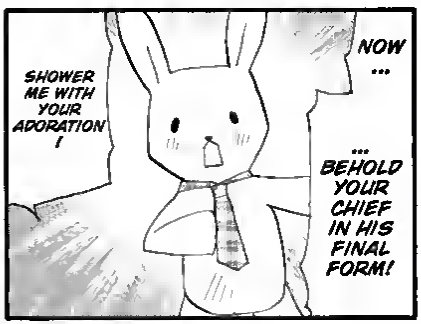

WELL, WELL, WELL! THAT'S MUCH BETTER.
DON'T YOU AGREE, EVERYONE?
YOU COULDN'T NOTICE BECAUSE IT WAS YOUR BEHIND!
YOU'VE BEEN LIKE THAT FOR MONTHS!
AH-HA-HA-HA-HA-HA!

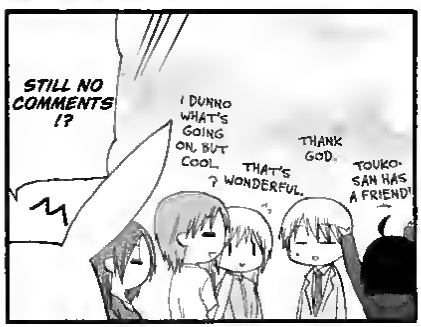


PROBLEM SOLVED?

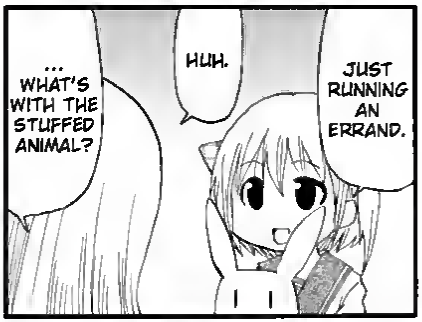


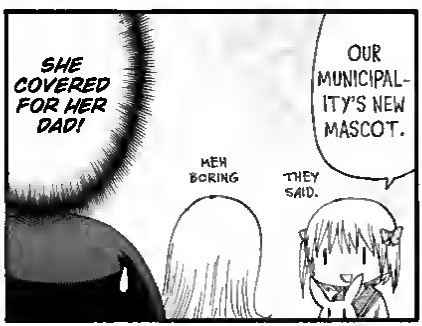


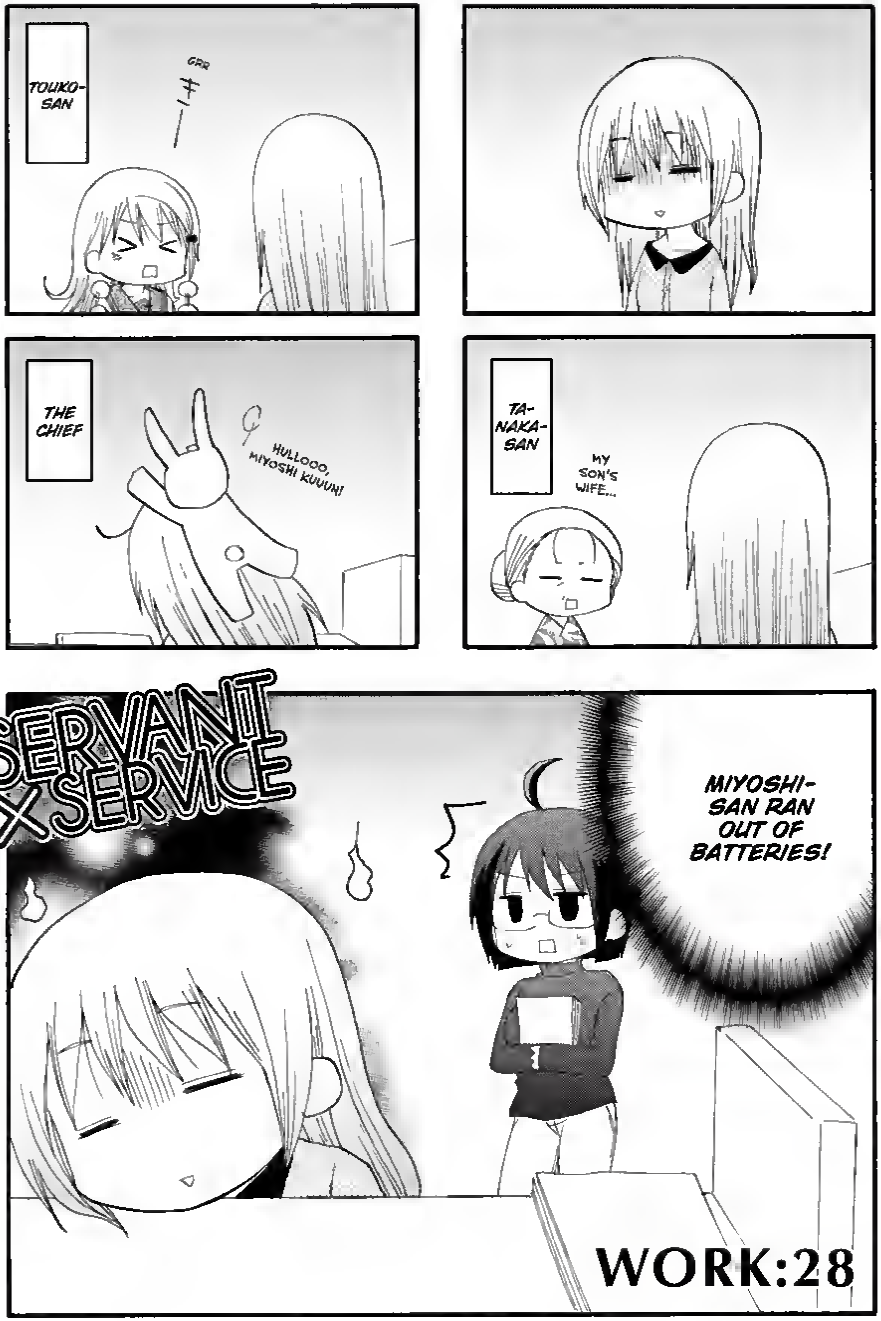




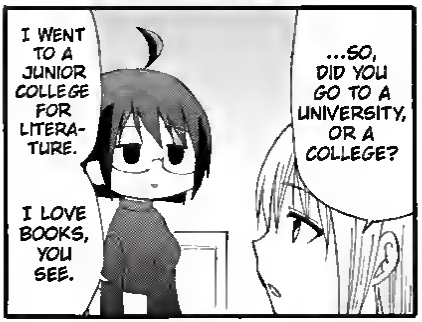
THE ART OF IMPROVISING

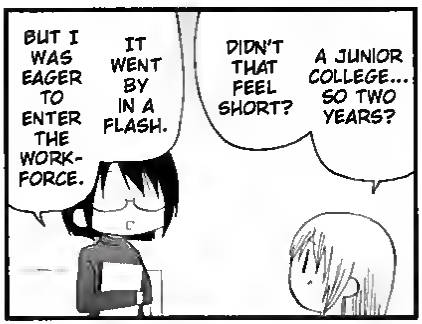


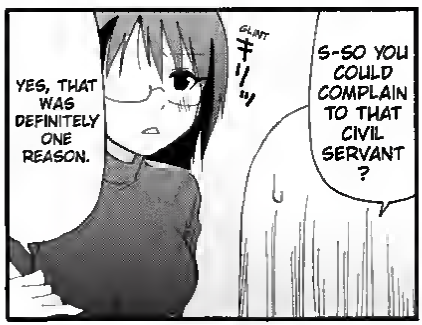


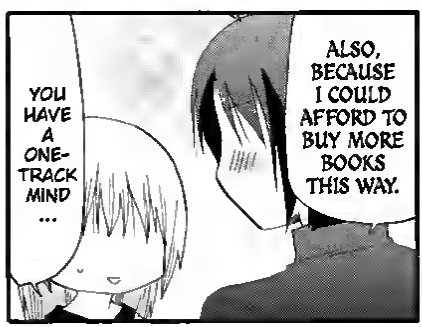

TOUKO-SAN
GRR
—!+
THE CHIEF
HULLOOO, MIYOSHI KUUUN!
TA-NAKA-SAN
MY SON'S WIFE...
SERVANT × SERVICE
MIYOSHI-SAN RAN OUT OF BATTERIES!
WORK:28

LUCY'S DREAM

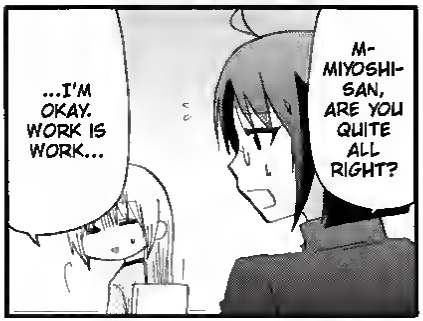


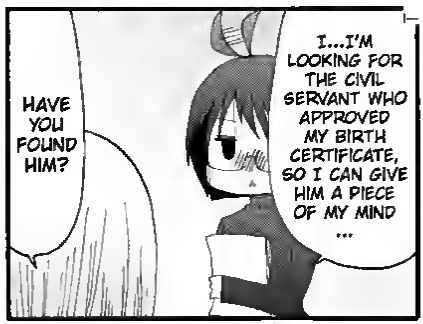




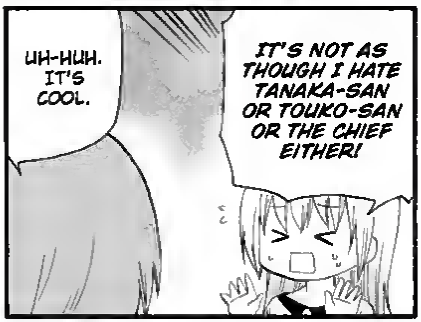


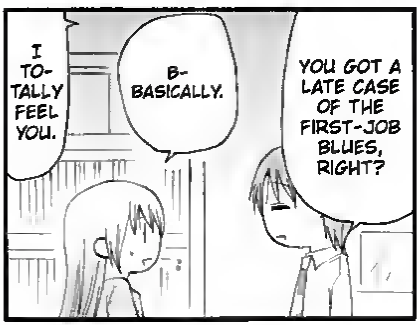
LUCY'S CIVIL SERVANT



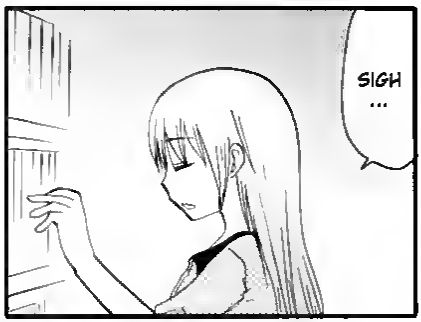


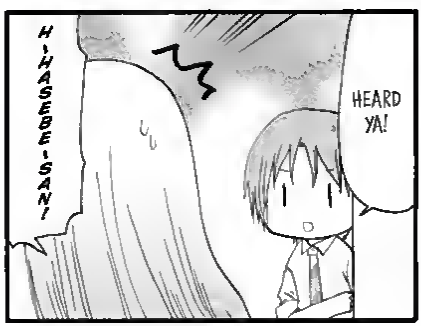
CAN'T HELP BUT BE WORK-SHY



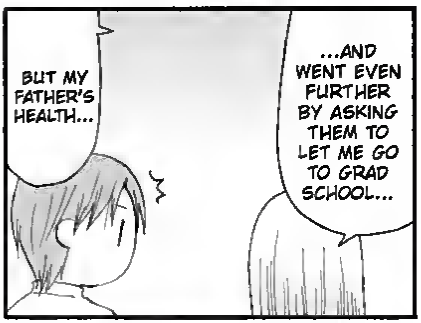


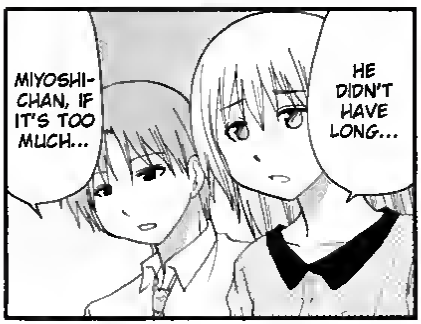
VOICE OF THE HEART



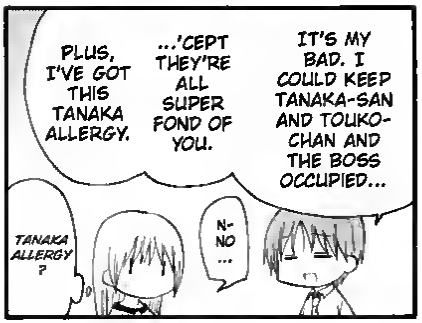


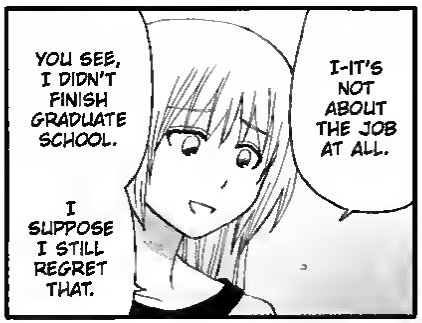
IT'S OKAY TO CRY

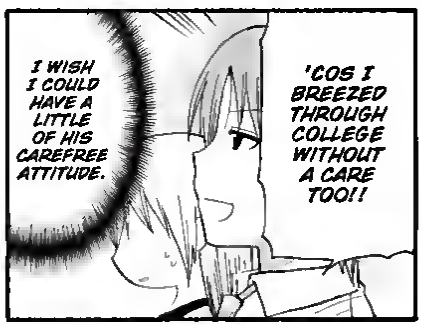




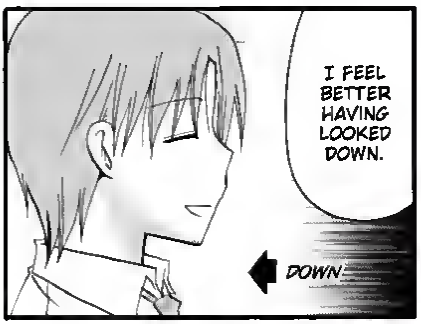
MIYOSHI'S REGRETS

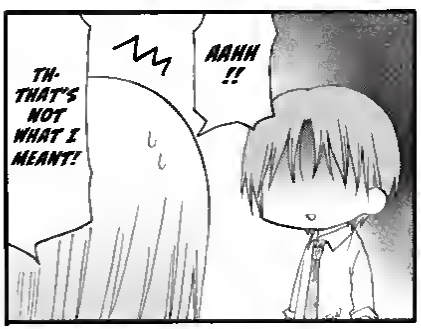

PLUS, I'VE GOT THIS TANAKA ALLERGY.
...'CEPT THEY'RE ALL SUPER FOND OF YOU.
IT'S MY BAD. I COULD KEEP TANAKA-SAN AND TOUKO-CHAN AND THE BOSS OCCUPIED...
TANAKA ALLERGY ?
N-NO...



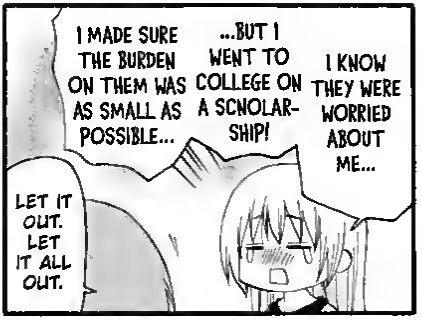


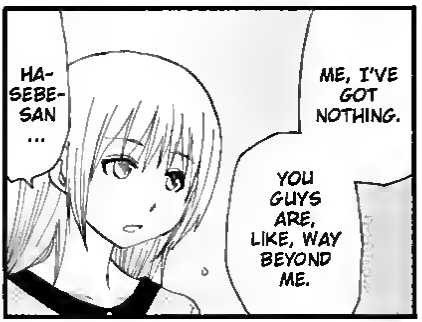
A GREAT CONVERSATION PARTNER



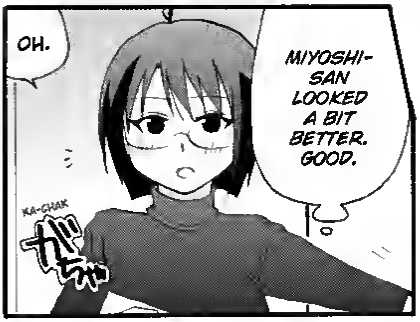


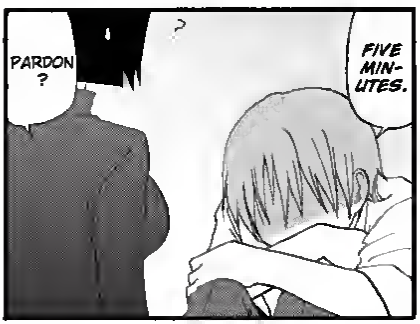
DREAMS


I MADE SURE THE BURDEN ON THEM WAS AS SMALL AS POSSIBLE...
...BUT I WENT TO COLLEGE ON A SCHOLAR-SHIP!
I KNOW THEY WERE WORRIED ABOUT ME...
LET IT OUT. LET IT ALL OUT.



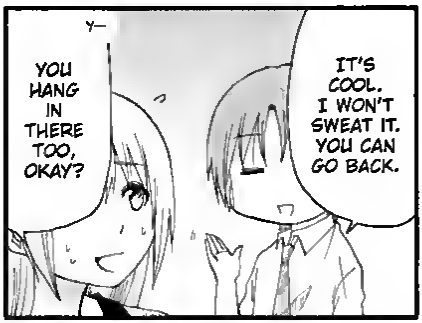
REBOOTING

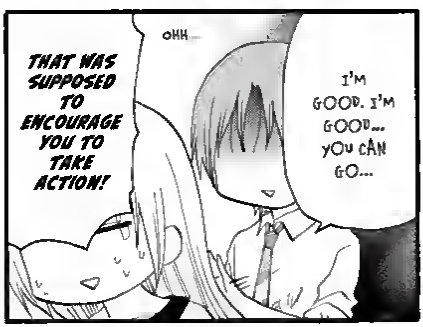


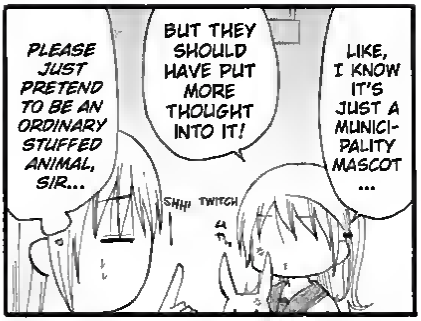


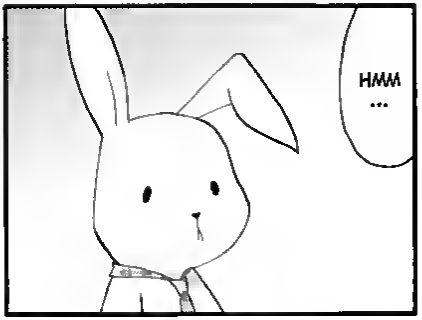
MIYOSHI-STYLE ENCOURAGEMENT

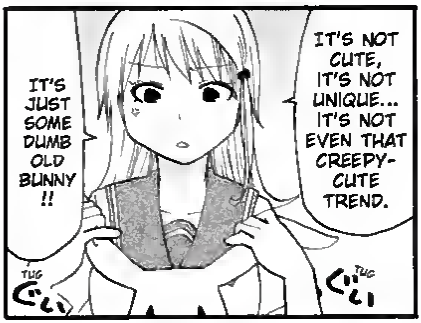
UMM... I-I MEANT LOOKING DOWN AT MYSELF FROM ANOTHER PERSPEC-TIVE.
NO! OHH, I SAID THE WRONG THING AGAIN ...
I'M SO FAR DOWN. LOWER THAN DIRT.



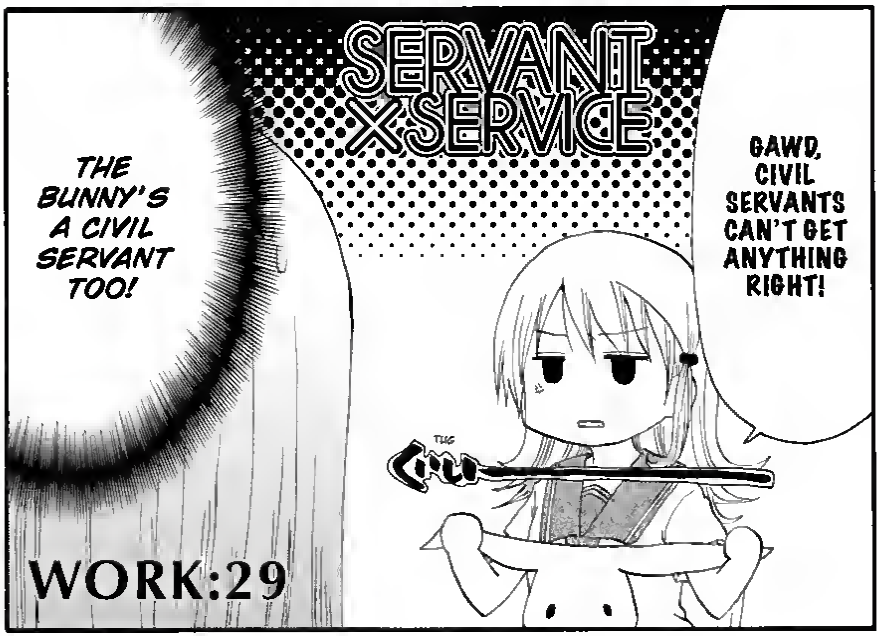



PLEASE JUST PRETEND TO BE AN ORDINARY STUFFED ANIMAL, SIR...
BUT THEY SHOULD HAVE PUT MORE THOUGHT INTO IT!
LIKE, I KNOW IT'S JUST A MUNICI-PALITY MASCOT ...
SHH!
TWITCH

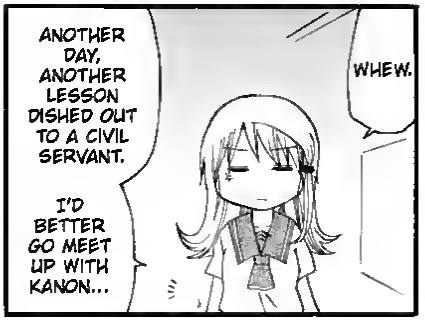

HMM ...


IT'S JUST SOME DUMB OLD BUNNY !!
IT'S NOT CUTE, IT'S NOT UNIQUE... IT'S NOT EVEN THAT CREEPY-CUTE TREND.
TUG
TUG

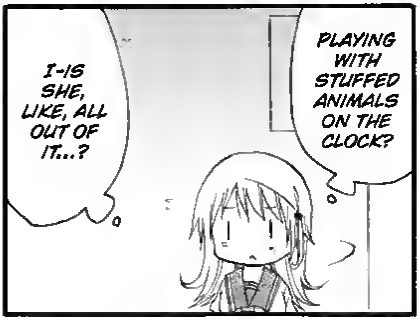
SO NOT CUTE.

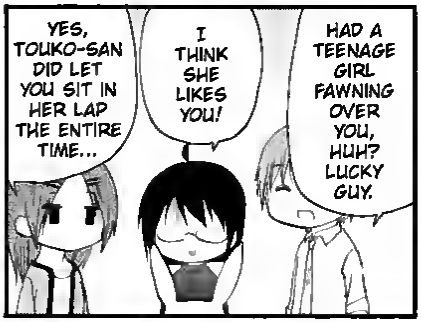

SERVANT X SERVICE
THE BUNNY'S A CIVIL SERVANT TOO!
GAWD, CIVIL SERVANTS CAN'T GET ANYTHING RIGHT!
TUG
WORK:29

THAT WHICH MUST NOT BE SEEN ①

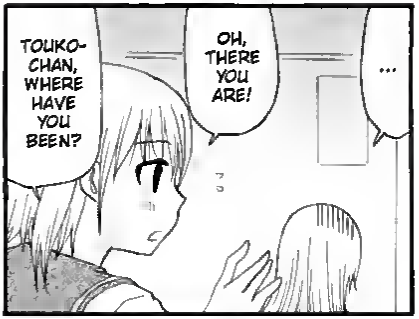


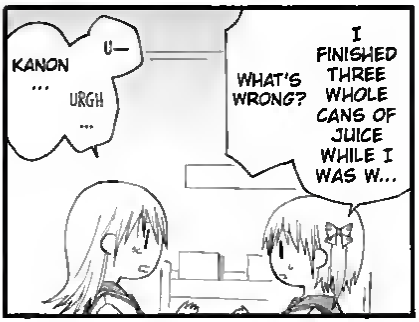
THAT WHICH MUST NOT BE SEEN ②

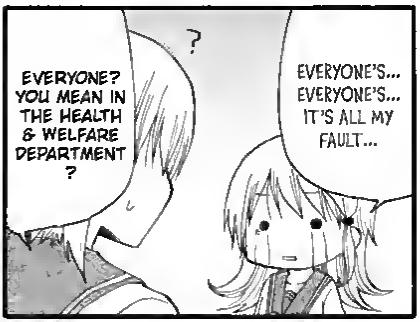


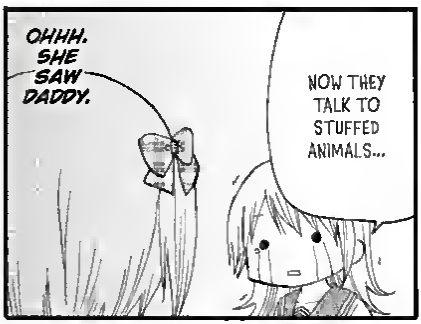

YES, TOUKO-SAN DID LET YOU SIT IN HER LAP THE ENTIRE TIME...
I THINK SHE LIKES YOU!
HAD A TEENAGE GIRL FAWNING OVER YOU, HUH? LUCKY GUY.

JUST A HUNCH

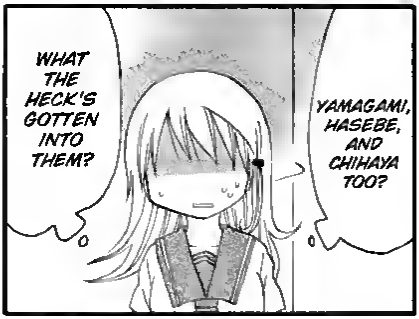


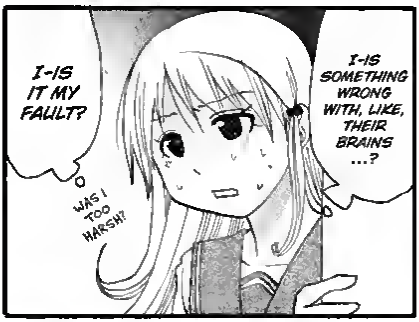


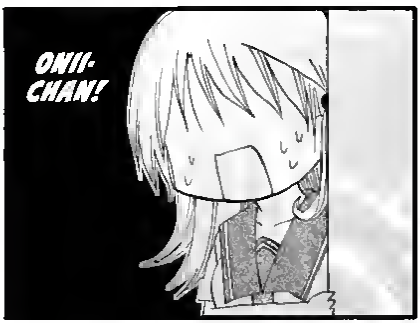




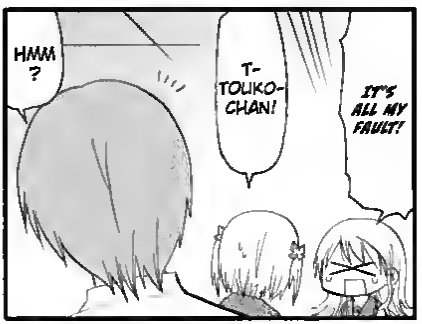
THAT WHICH MUST NOT BE SEEN ③

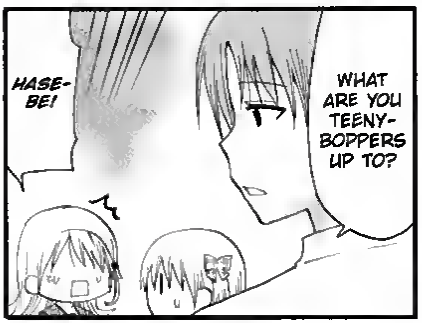


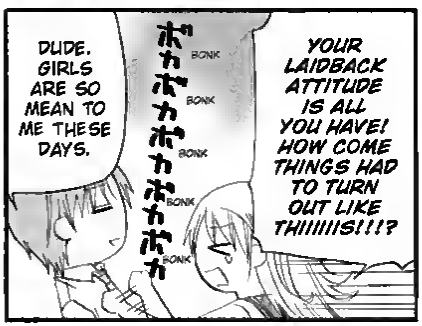




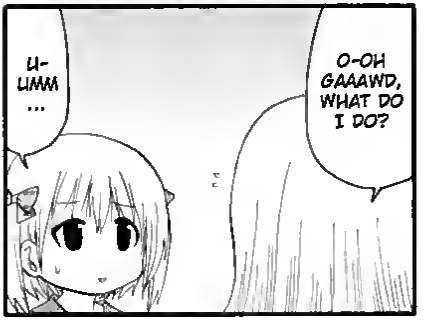
HASEBE'S ONE MERIT

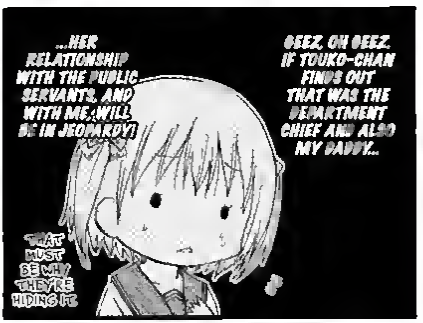


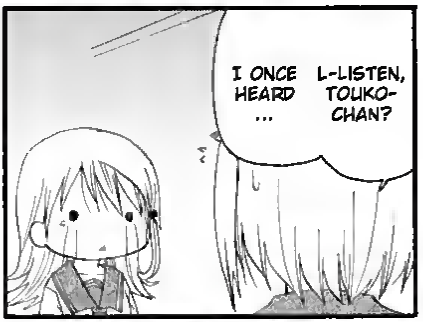


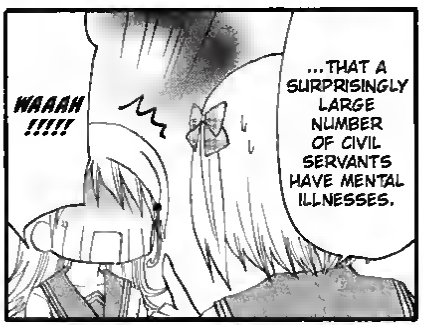


BLAME IT ON CIVIL SERVITUDE

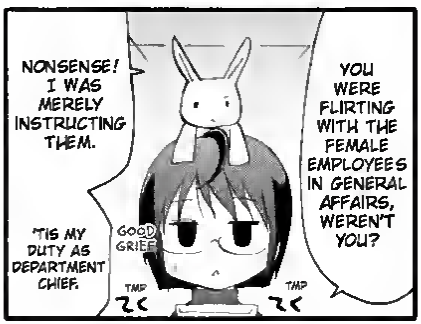


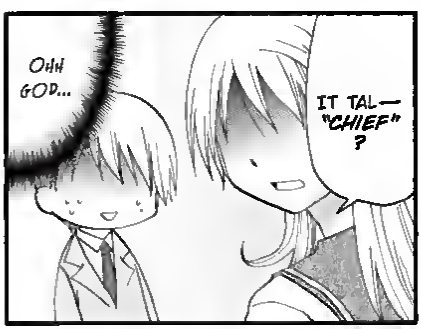

...HER RELATIONSHIP WITH THE PUBLIC SERVANTS, AND WITH ME, WILL BE IN JEOPARDY!
OEEZ, OH OEEZ. IF TOUKO-CHAN FINDS OUT THAT WAS THE DEPARTMENT CHIEF AND ALSO MY DADDY...
WHAT MUST BE WHY THEY'RE HIDING IT?



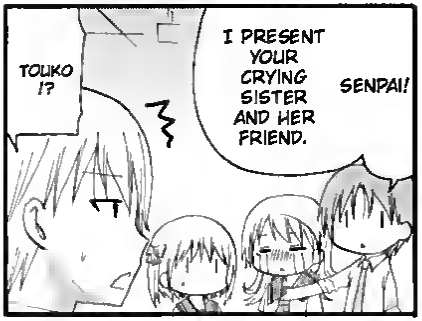


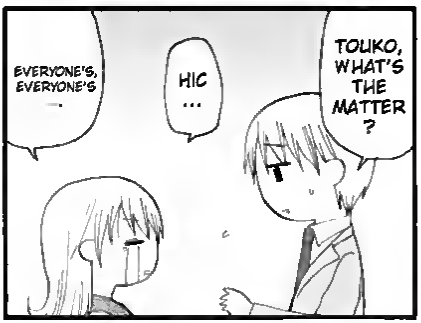
THE TRUTH ABOUT BUN-BUNS


NONSENSE! I WAS MERELY INSTRUCTING THEM.
'TIS MY DUTY AS DEPARTMENT CHIEF.
GOOD GRIEF
TMP
TMP
YOU WERE FLIRTING WITH THE FEMALE EMPLOYEES IN GENERAL AFFAIRS, WEREN'T YOU?



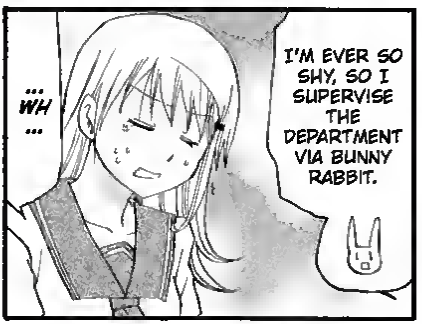
MENTALLY ILL





BECAUSE SHE CARES

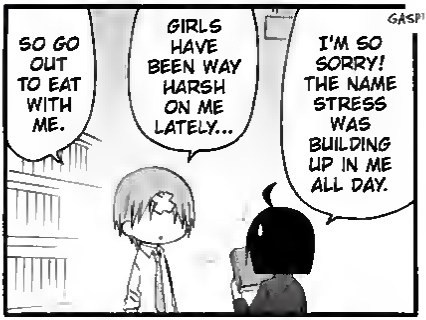
A SOUND POINT



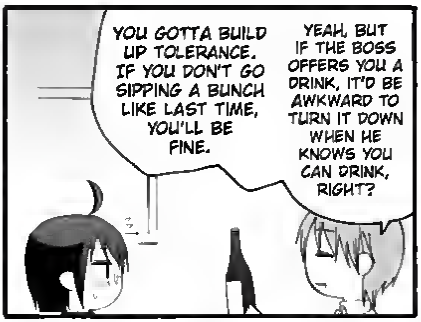
PAY THAT NO MIND.
...LUCY... (ETC.)... YAMAGAMI?
YOUR NAME IS...
HEALTH & WELFARE
PARDON ME. THIS IS FROM HEALTH & WELFARE.
GENERAL AFFAIRS
OH, THANK YOU ...
... LUCY YAMAGAMI-CHAN!
GIGGLE
LUCYYY! LET'S GRAB DINNER!
EXCUSE ME, THIS WOMAN NEEDS SOME BROCHURES.
PR
OH, THANKS FOR SHOWING HER HERE.
... LUCY (ETC.) YAMAGAMI.
HAHA
OW!
WHOMP
バズッ
GOD!
SERVANT X SERVICE
WORK:30

THE DANGERS OF COOKING

BEFORE YOU KNOW IT

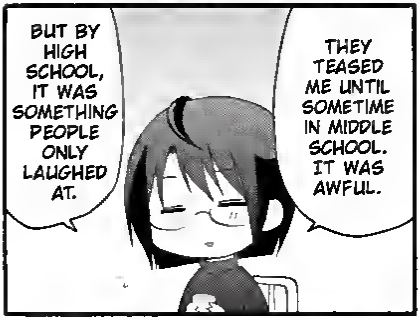


A LITTLE BIT CAUTIOUS


YOU GOTTA BUILD UP TOLERANCE. IF YOU DON'T GO SIPPING A BUNCH LIKE LAST TIME, YOU'LL BE FINE.
YEAH, BUT IF THE BOSS OFFERS YOU A DRINK, IT'D BE AWKWARD TO TURN IT DOWN WHEN HE KNOWS YOU CAN DRINK, RIGHT?

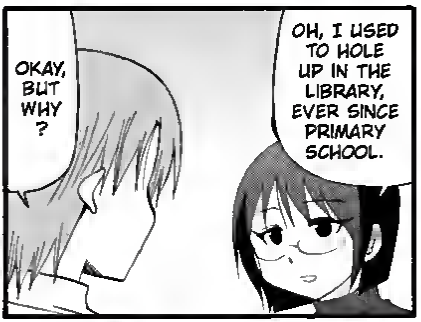
A BALANCED DIET IS IMPORTANT!

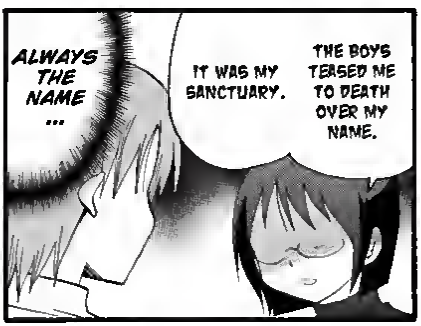
THE FEELINGS BEHIND A NAME



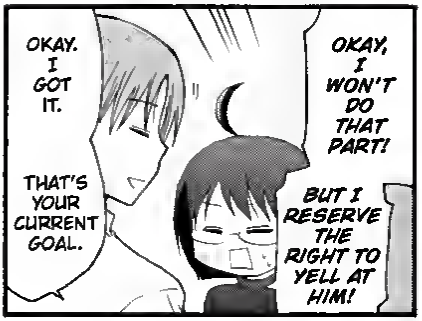
I COULDN'T.
THEY'RE GOOD PARENTS!
COULD YOU TELL YOUR PARENTS THAT THE NAME THEY GAVE YOU MAKES YOU MISERABLE AND THAT YOU'RE CHANGING IT?

ORIGIN OF A BOOKWORM



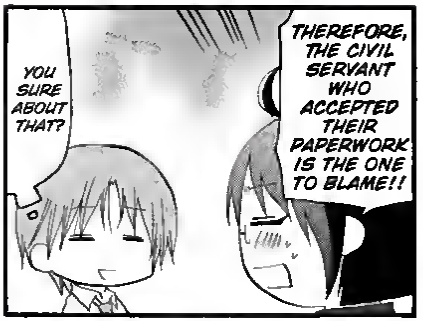


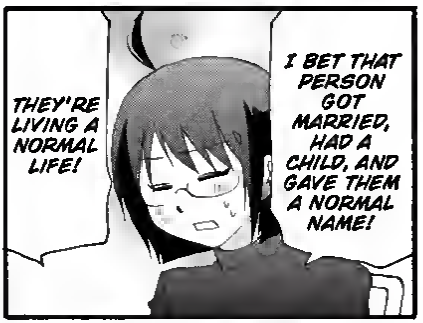
LITTLE BY LITTLE



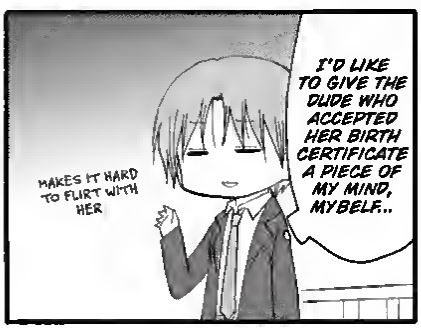
YOU DISLIKE ME THAT MUCH, HUH?
INSTANT REJECTION!
NO THANK YOU.
HOW IS THAT CONNECTED?
SO WHEN YOU FINISH THAT UP, YOU SHOULD GO OUT WITH ME.

A LITTLE REVENGE

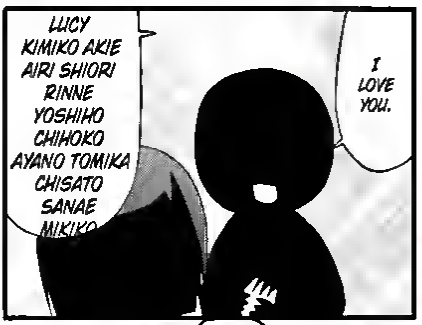


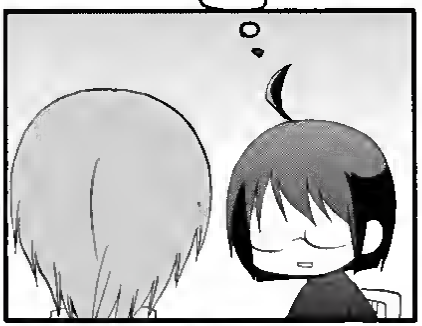


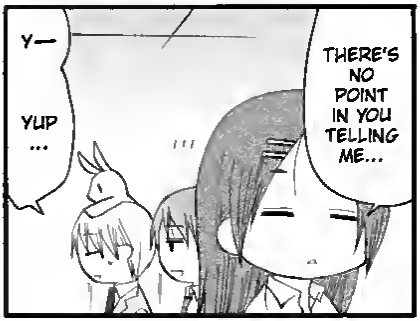
EVEN WHEN THE MOOD IS RIGHT

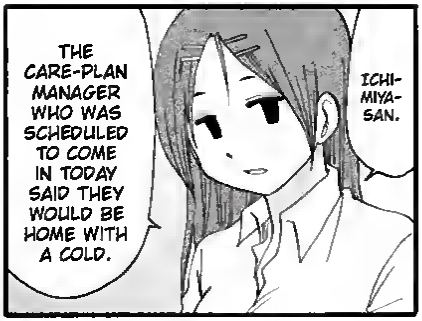


LIFELONG TRAUMA






Y—
YUP...
THERE'S NO POINT IN YOU TELLING ME...

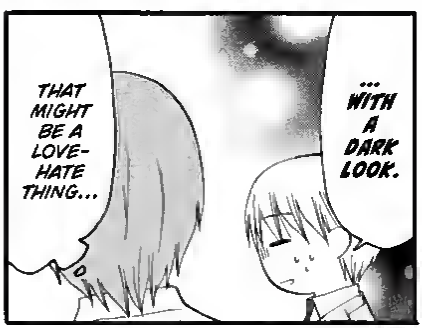

ICHI-MIYA-SAN.
THE CARE-PLAN MANAGER WHO WAS SCHEDULED TO COME IN TODAY SAID THEY WOULD BE HOME WITH A COLD.

Y—
YES, SIR!!?
...I'VE NOTICED THAT YOU AND CHIHAYA-KUN...

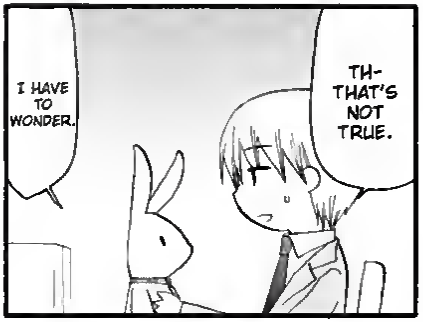
OH. OKAY...
GET WELL SOON.

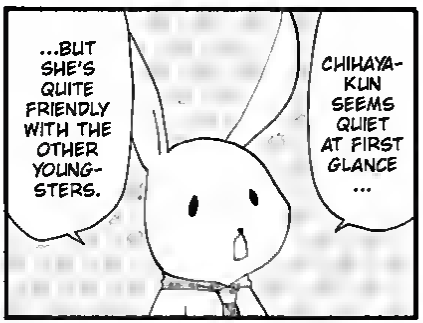
SERVANT×SERVICE
...DON'T GET ALONG WELL, DO YOU?
WORK:31

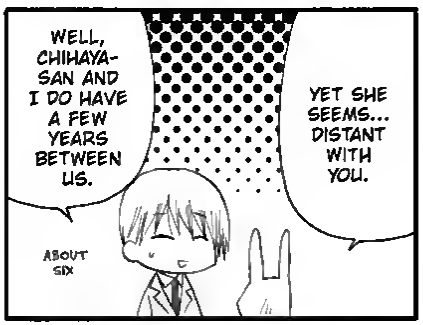
HER TYPE

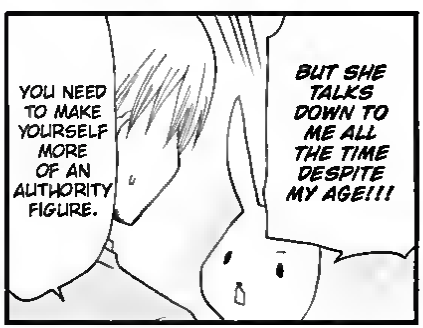


THE CHIEF'S RANK

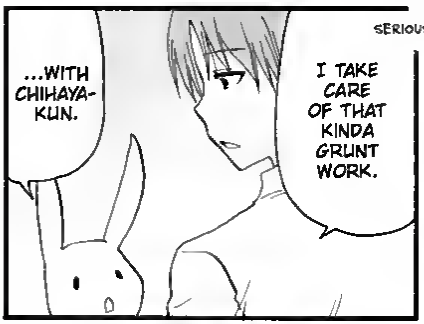


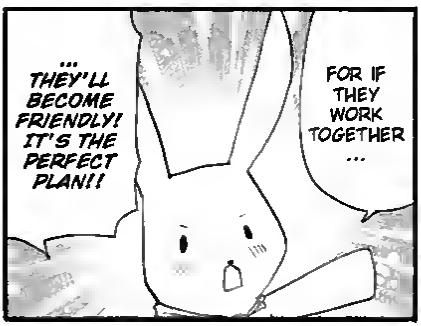


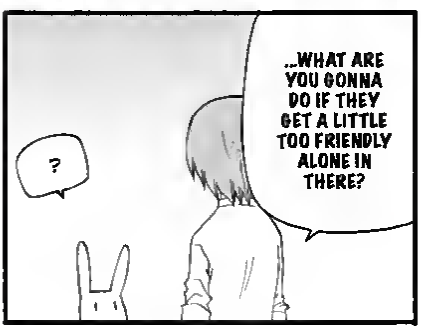




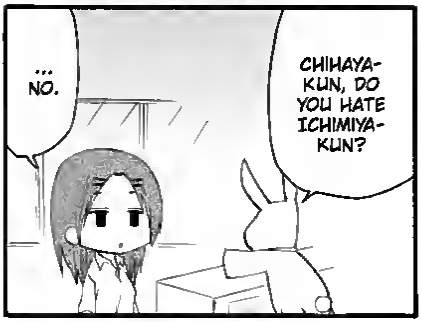
OPERATION: CLOSE QUARTERS

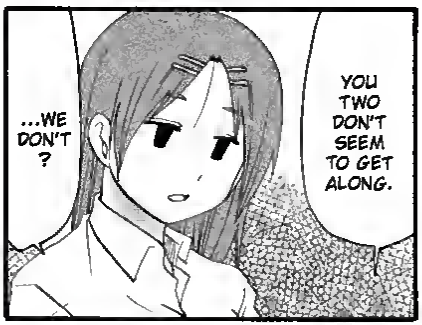


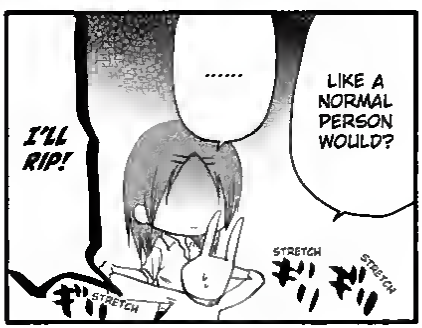




A REWARD FOR BEING KIND







I MEAN, I DO APPRECIATE WHAT THE CHIEF IS TRYING TO ACCOMPLISH.
.....

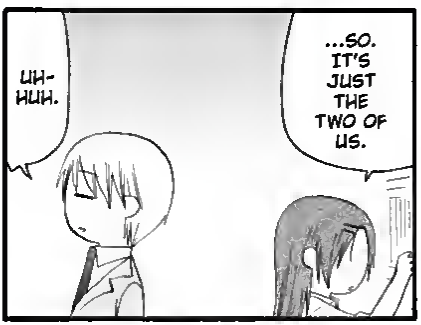
...YOU'VE HAD TO TRY THAT MUCH HARDER TO ACT NORMAL.
SINCE I'M PRETTY BAD AT KEEPING SECRETS ...

... ICHI-MIYA-SAN...
I'M REALLY NOT SURE WHAT TO DO NOW THAT IT'S COME TO THIS.

THE DARK LOOK AGAIN !
YOU'RE SO VERY KIND-HEARTED.

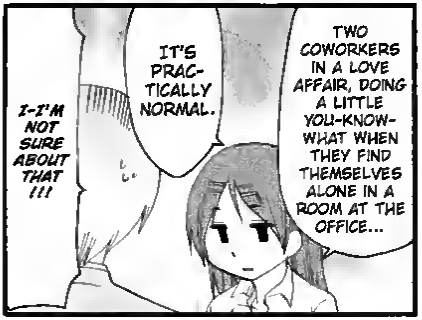
IT'S A LOT OF LIFTING ANYWAY.
I DON'T MIND.
...I'M SORRY YOU'RE STUCK DOING CHORES.

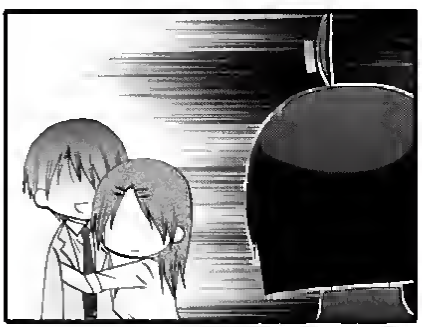
HERE WE GO.
.....


UH-HUH.
...SO. IT'S JUST THE TWO OF US.

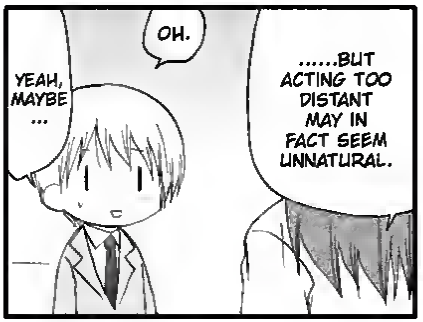
KIND OF ANNOY-ING, HUH?

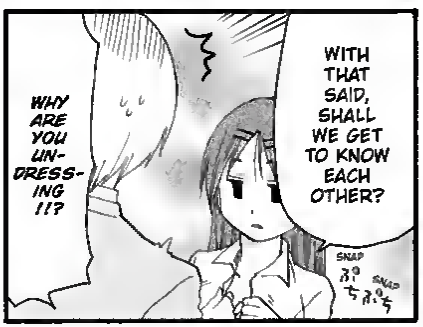
YOU-KNOW-WHAT IS...YOU-KNOW-WHAT


I-I'M NOT SURE ABOUT THAT !!!
IT'S PRAC-TICALLY NORMAL.
TWO COWORKERS IN A LOVE AFFAIR, DOING A LITTLE YOU-KNOW-WHAT WHEN THEY FIND THEMSELVES ALONE IN A ROOM AT THE OFFICE...

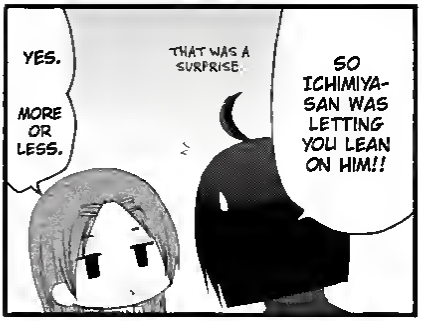


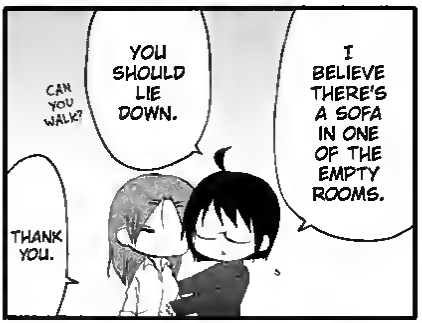
IN ORDER TO GET ALONG

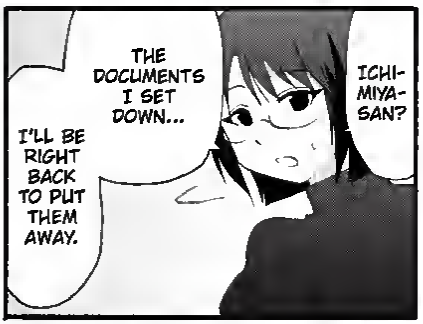




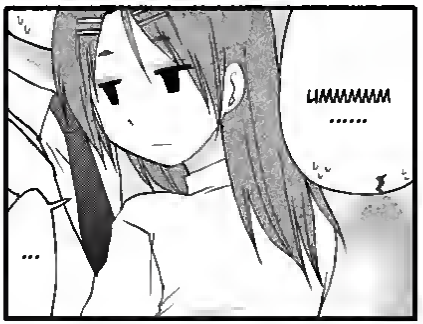
SICKLY

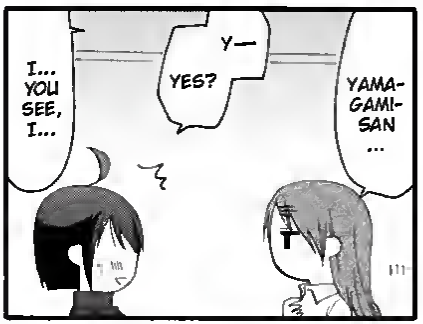


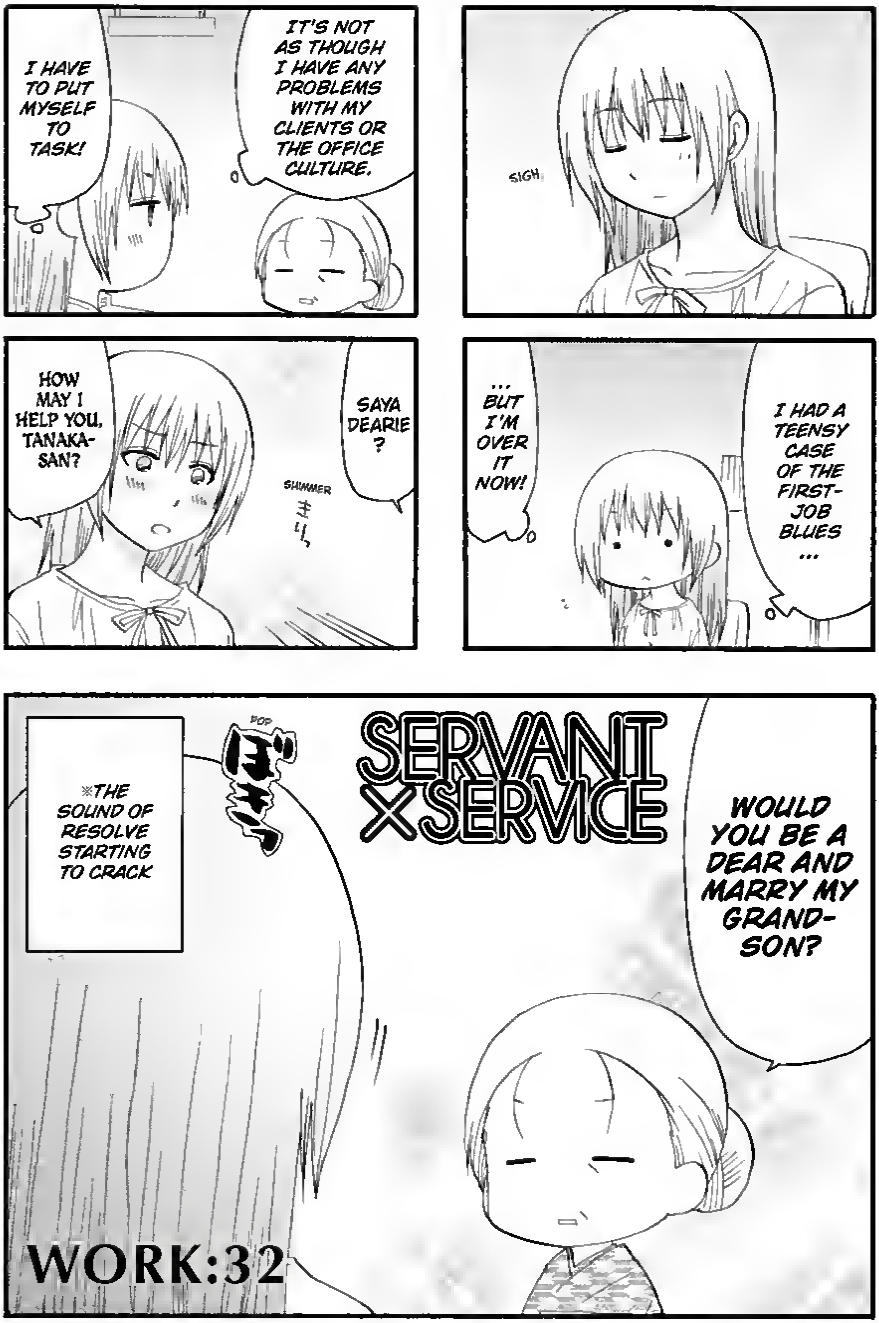




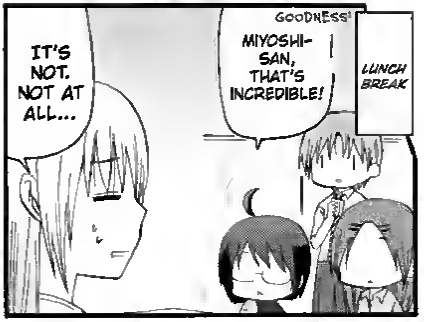
THERE'S A GOOD EXPLANATION

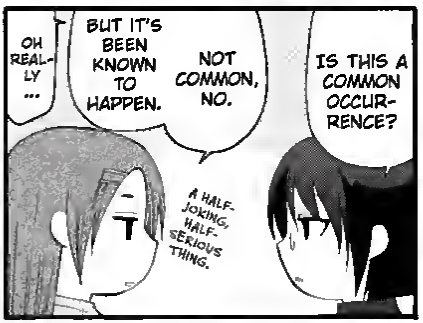




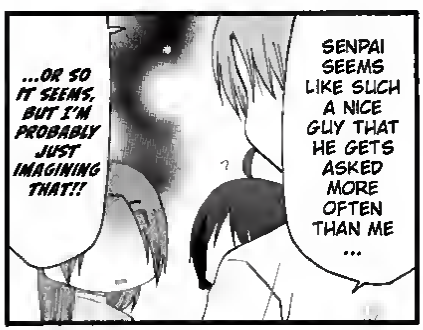

I HAVE TO PUT MYSELF TO TASK!
IT'S NOT AS THOUGH I HAVE ANY PROBLEMS WITH MY CLIENTS OR THE OFFICE CULTURE.
SIGH
I HAD A TEENSY CASE OF THE FIRST-JOB BLUES ...
...BUT I'M OVER IT NOW!
SAYA DEARIE?
SHIMMER
キラ
HOW MAY I HELP YOU, TANAKA-SAN?
SERVANT×SERVICE
WOULD YOU BE A DEAR AND MARRY MY GRAND-SON?
POP
※THE SOUND OF RESOLVE STARTING TO CRACK
WORK:32

HEADHUNTING

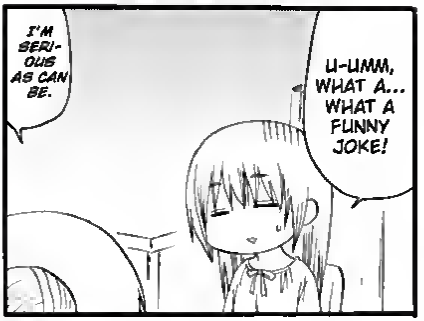


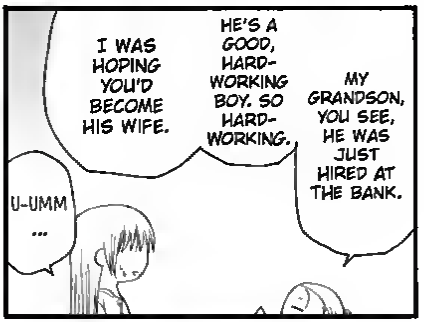


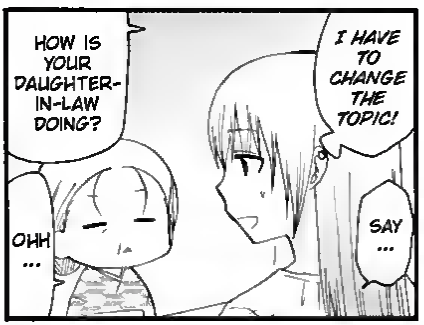
ME AND SENPAI DO HOME VISITS, RIGHT?
DOES IT HAPPEN TO YOU TOO, HASEBE-SAN?
SO SOMETIMES THAT COMES UP WHEN WE CHAT.
OH YEAH. ONCE IN A WHILE.

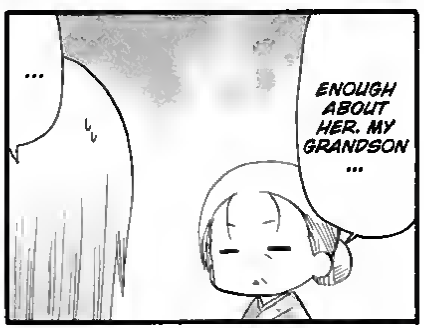


TOPIC DU JOUR

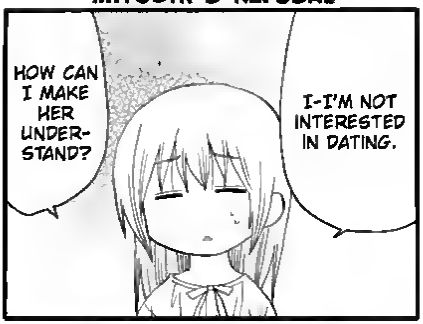


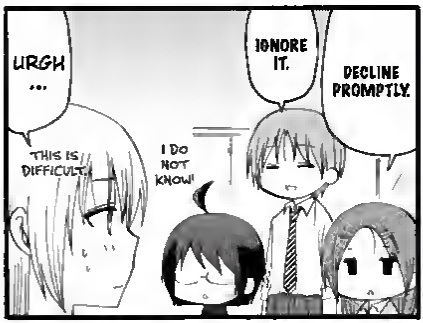

I WAS HOPING YOU'D BECOME HIS WIFE.
HE'S A GOOD, HARD-WORKING BOY. SO HARD-WORKING.
MY GRANDSON, YOU SEE, HE WAS JUST HIRED AT THE BANK.
U-UMM...

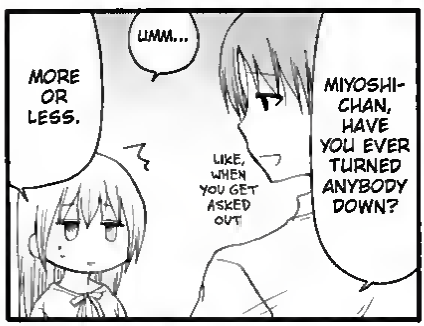




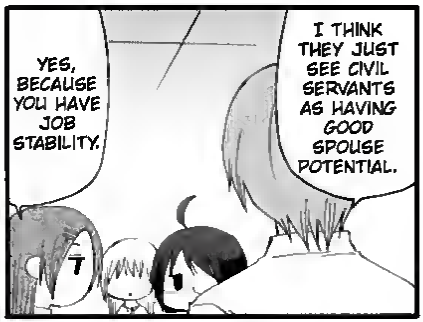
MIYOSHI'S REFUSAL

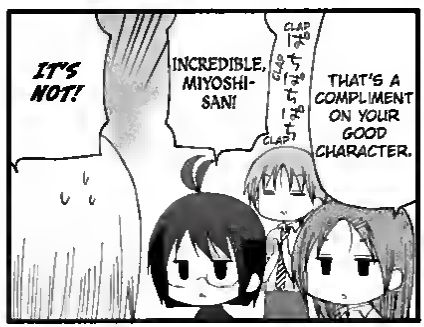




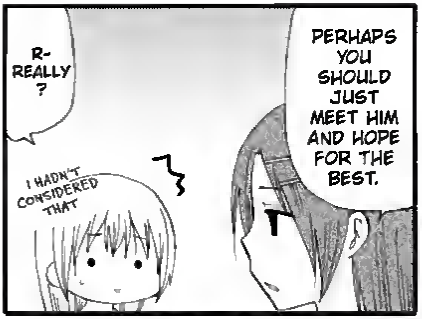


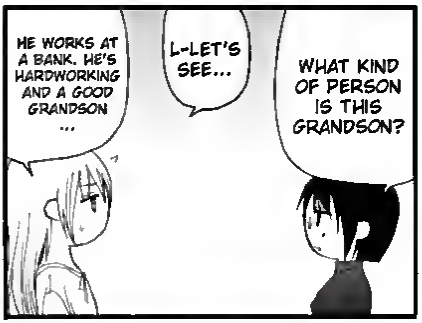
STABLE MIYOSHI

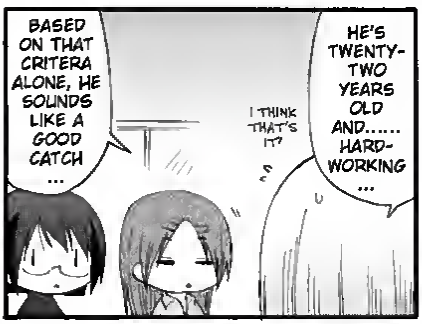




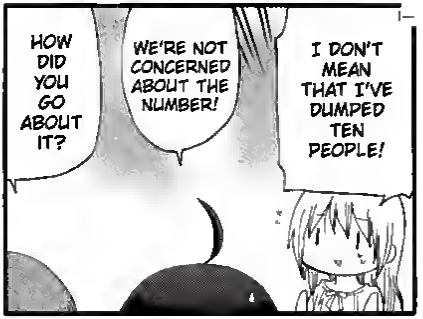
CRITERIA

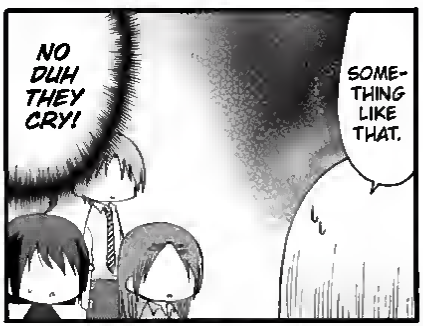




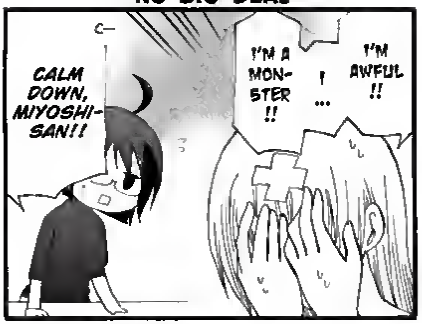


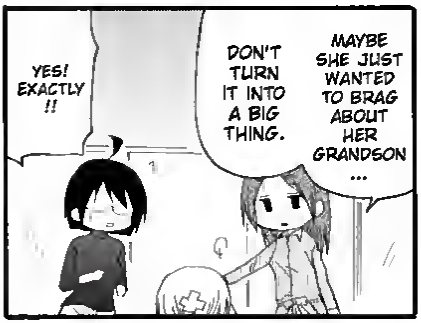
PROBLEMATIC REJECTION

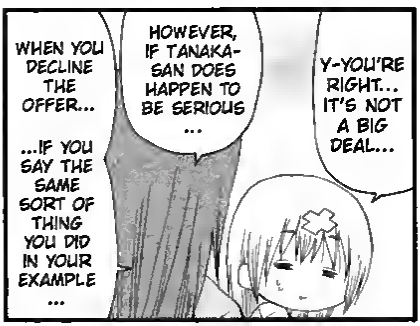


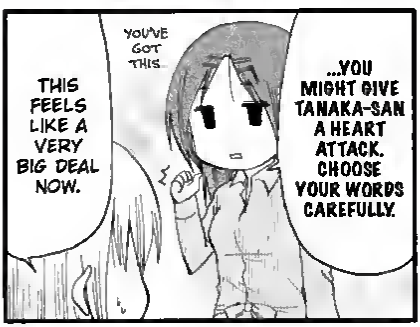


NO BIG DEAL

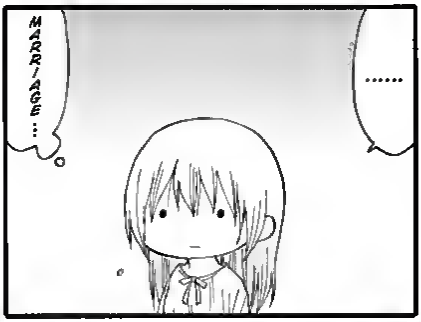


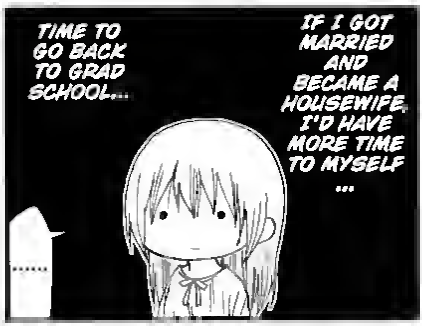


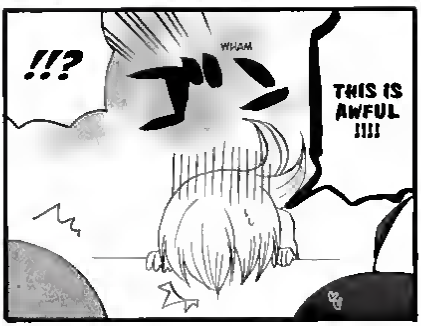

WHEN YOU DECLINE THE OFFER...
...IF YOU SAY THE SAME SORT OF THING YOU DID IN YOUR EXAMPLE ...
HOWEVER, IF TANAKA-SAN DOES HAPPEN TO BE SERIOUS ...
Y-YOU'RE RIGHT... IT'S NOT A BIG DEAL...



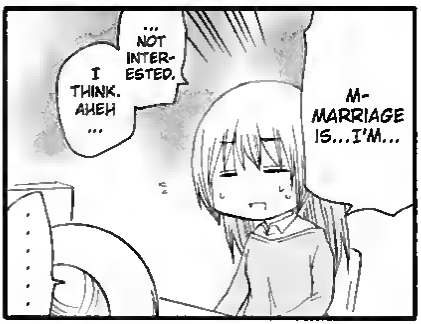
SUDDEN REGRET



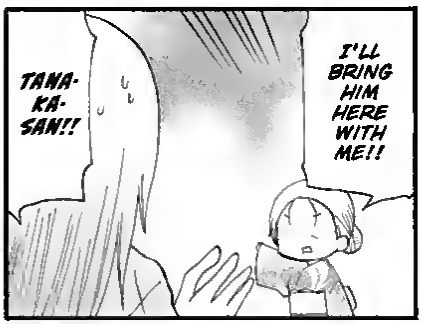


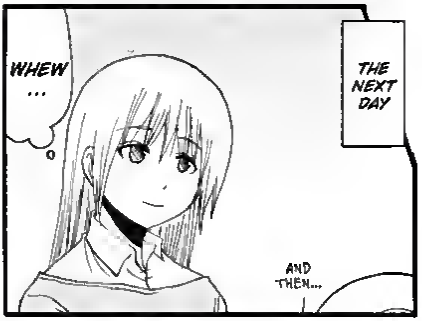


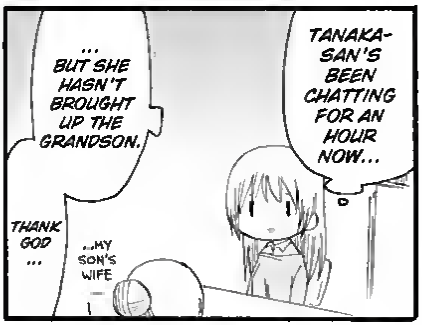
T...
TANA-KA-SAN!
LISTEN ...
SUCH A HARD-WORKING BOY...
MY GRANDSON WORKS AT THE BANK. HE'S HARDWORKING AND A GOOD BOY.

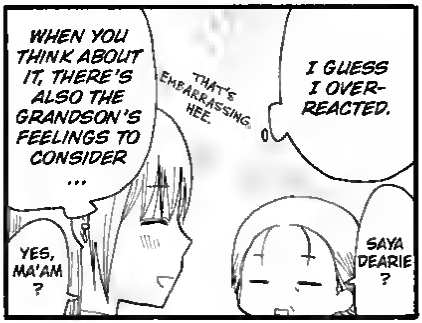

... NOT INTER-ESTED.
I THINK. AHEH ...
M-MARRIAGE IS...I'M...

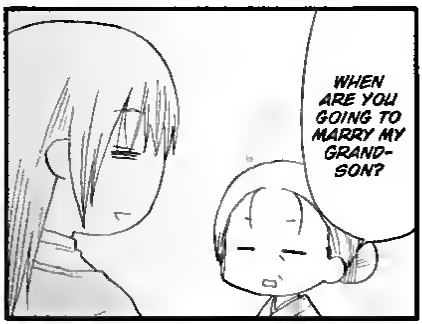
I UNDERSTAND, SAYA DEARIE...
TANA-KA-SAN ...


I'LL BRING HIM HERE WITH ME!!
TANA-KA-SAN!!


WHEW ...
THE NEXT DAY
AND THEN...


TANAKA-SAN'S BEEN CHATTING FOR AN HOUR NOW...
... BUT SHE HASN'T BROUGHT UP THE GRANDSON.
THANK GOD ...
...MY SON'S WIFE

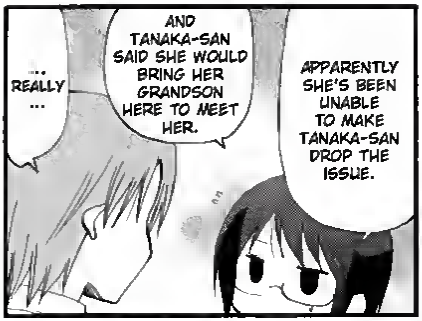

I GUESS I OVER-REACTED.
THAT'S EMBARRASSING. HEE.
WHEN YOU THINK ABOUT IT, THERE'S ALSO THE GRANDSON'S FEELINGS TO CONSIDER ...
YES, MA'AM ?
SAYA DEARIE ?


WHEN ARE YOU GOING TO MARRY MY GRAND-SON?

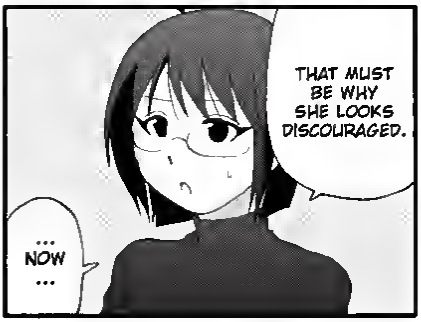
KANON MOMOI **17 YEARS OLD**

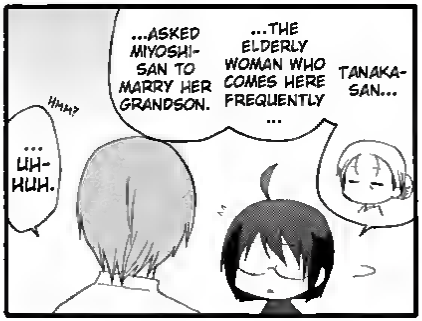
TOUKO'S FRIEND AND ALSO THE RABBIT'S DAUGHTER. IN MY INITIAL DESIGNS, HER HAIRSTYLE RESEMBLED RABBIT EARS, BUT MY EDITOR PUT A STOP TO THAT. YEAH...I FIGURED. I WAS AIMING FOR AN INNOCENTLY CUTE FEEL WITH HER.

OH. SENPAI.
HAA...
THANK GOD WE FINISHED FASTER THAN I EXPECTED, AT LEAST...
IT WAS NERVE-RACKING.
HOW'D THAT ALONE TIME GO?
ORGANIZING THE REFERENCE ROOM!!!!
OR A CERTAIN ACT RELATED TO YOUR OFFICE ROMANCE?
DO YOU MEAN ORGANIZING THE REFERENCE ROOM?


...
REALLY
...
AND TANAKA-SAN SAID SHE WOULD BRING HER GRANDSON HERE TO MEET HER.
APPARENTLY SHE'S BEEN UNABLE TO MAKE TANAKA-SAN DROP THE ISSUE.

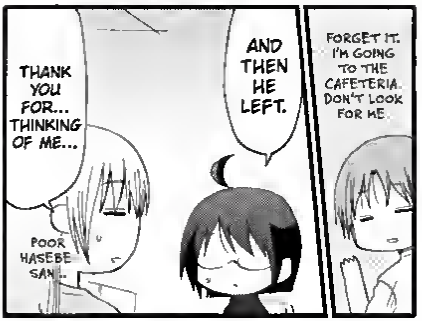
SIGH.

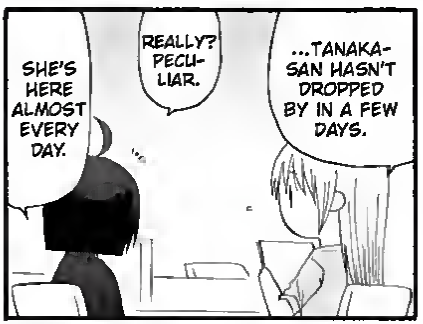

THAT MUST BE WHY SHE LOOKS DISCOURAGED.
...
NOW
...

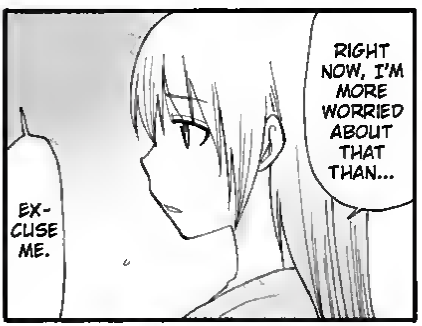

...ASKED MIYOSHI-SAN TO MARRY HER GRANDSON.
...THE ELDERLY WOMAN WHO COMES HERE FREQUENTLY
...
TANAKA-SAN...
HMM?
...
UH-HUH.

WHY DO YOU LOOK SICK TOO, HASEBE-SAN?
SERVANT X SERVICE
WORK:33

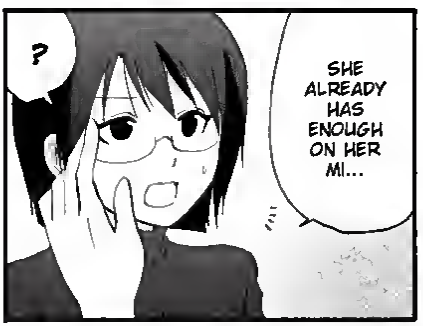
TANAKA JUNIOR

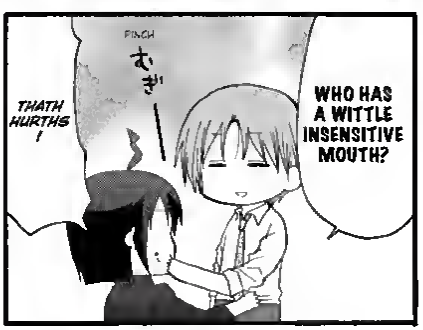




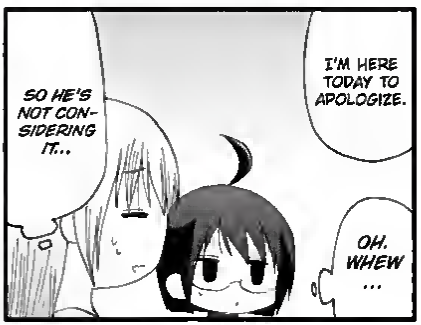


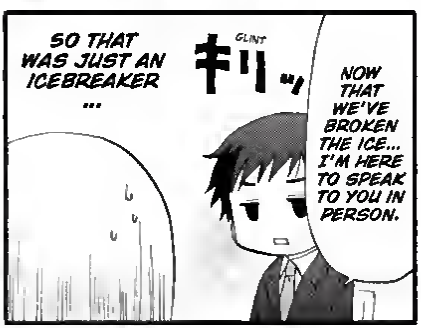
YOU CAN'T



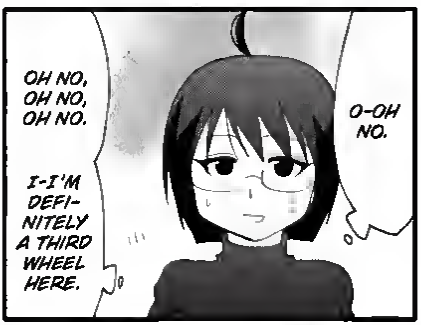


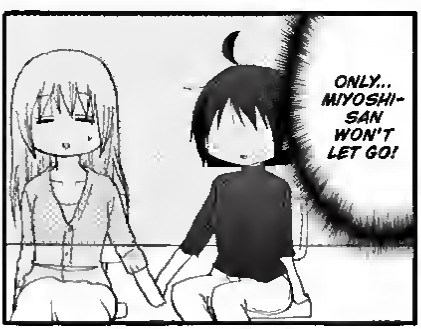
TODAY'S TASK



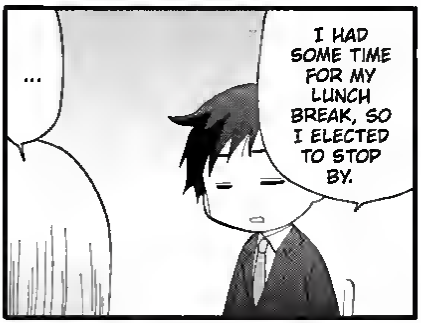


IMPENDING CRISIS

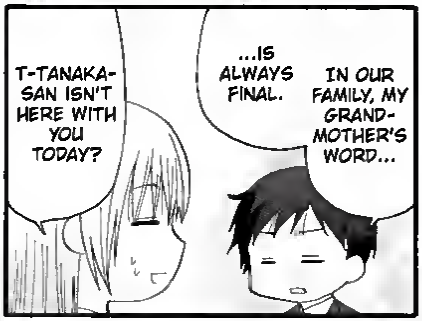




FIRST IMPRESSION OF MIYOSHI

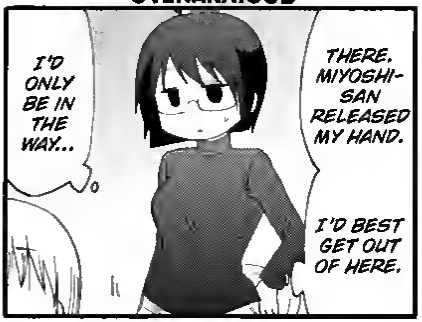


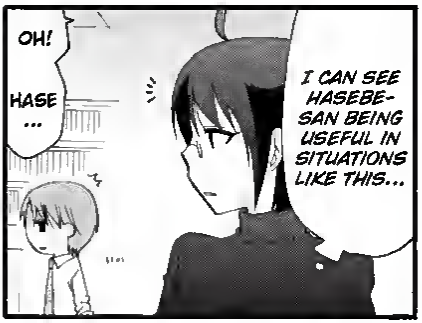
PUBLIC WORKERS & BANK WORKERS



BUT HE SEEMS SO DIFFERENT FROM US ...
PUBLIC WORKERS AND BANK WORKERS ARE BOTH SUPPOSED TO BE STUFFY PEOPLE.
STIFF
IT'S THE CHANGE IN SEASONS

OVERANXIOUS



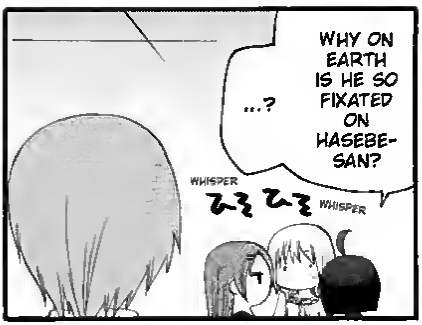


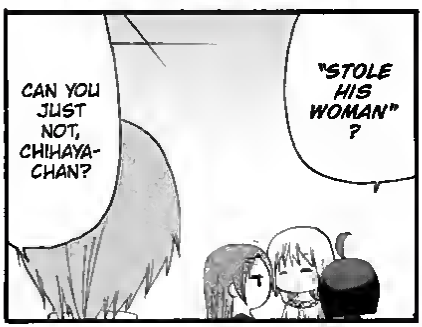
SECOND IMPRESSION OF MIYOSHI

HE'S HARDWORKING
WITHOUT YOU
..... HASE-BE ...
NO WAY. I DON'T KNOW THIS DUDE.
ARE YOU FRIENDS ?
HASEBE! YOU...
STAMP
STAMP
ズカズカ
OOF!
SIR, ONLY EMPLOYEES ARE ALLOWED BEHIND THE COUNTER—
... DUDE.
FATE'S BROUGHT US TOGETHER AGAIN .....
WHAT ARE YOU DOING WORKING AT SOME PUBLIC SERVICE OFFICE !?
HOW COULD YOU LEAVE WITHOUT SAYING A THING?
ISN'T YOUR LUNCH BREAK ABOUT TO END?
GAH!
JAB
ぐい
DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW I'VE FELT, NOT KNOWING WHERE YOU W—?
HARD-WORK-ING!
FWIP
ビシ
I MUST RETURN TO WORK.
DON'T LEAVE ME!!
SIGH...
.....

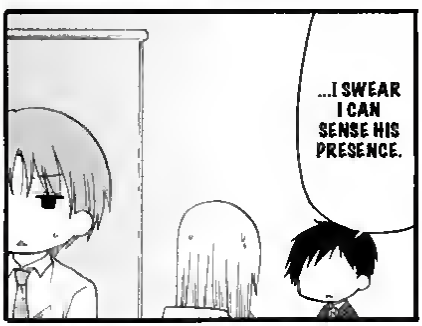
.....
HE'S BEEN COMING HERE THE PAST SEVERAL DAYS, ACTUALLY ...
I'M SORRY TO HAVE MADE YOU FRET OVER ME, DEAR.
I'M RELIEVED TO SEE YOU'RE WELL AGAIN, TANAKA-SAN.
I-I REALLY COULDN'T SAY...
HE'S A HARD-WORKING, GOOD BOY.
WELL? DO YOU LIKE HIM?
...I SEE THAT.
...
IN CASE I'M NOT FULLY RECOVERED YET, HE SAID.
MY GRANDSON CAME ALONG WITH ME TODAY.
SERVANT × SERVICE
IS THAT HIS ONLY SELLING POINT ...?
ANYWAY, HE'S A HARD-WORKING BOY.
WORK:34

HER SIXTH SENSE



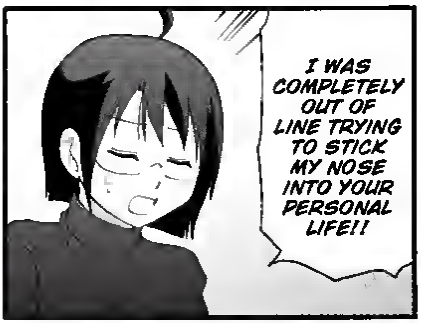


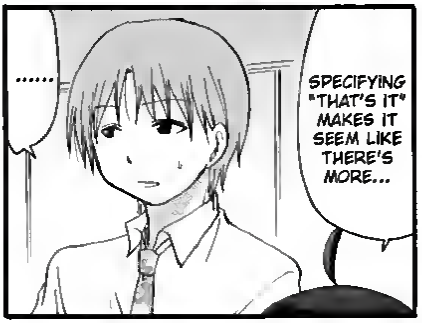
HIS SIXTH SENSE



I AM SO SORRY!
L-LU ...

WE WERE CLASS-MATES THROUGH HIGH SCHOOL. THAT'S IT.
I TOLD YOU GUYS.
TCH. THAT'S NOT IT?

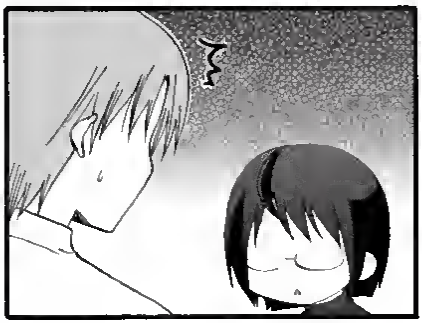

I WAS COMPLETELY OUT OF LINE TRYING TO STICK MY NOSE INTO YOUR PERSONAL LIFE!!


.....
SPECIFYING "THAT'S IT" MAKES IT SEEM LIKE THERE'S MORE...

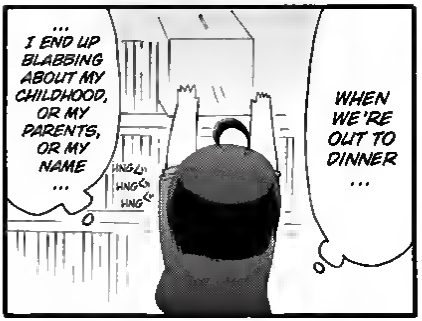
I HAVE NO BUSI-NESS IN YOUR LIFE!
NOT WHEN WE'RE TOTAL STRANG-ERS!

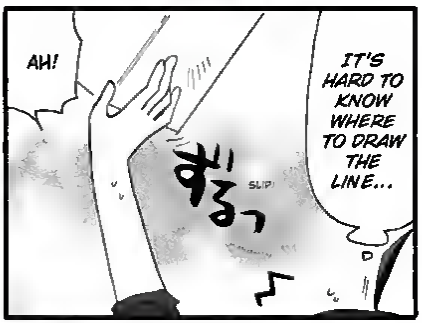
L...
LUCY, IT'S NOT RELATED TO YOU, OKAY?

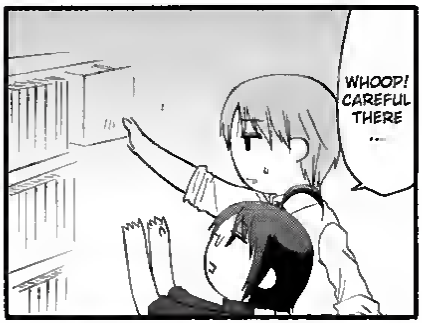
I-IT'S NOT AS THOUGH I WAS JUST DYING TO KNOW ABOUT IT ANYWAY!
...ONLY YOU COULD MANAGE TO HURT A GUY WITH AN APOLOGY...



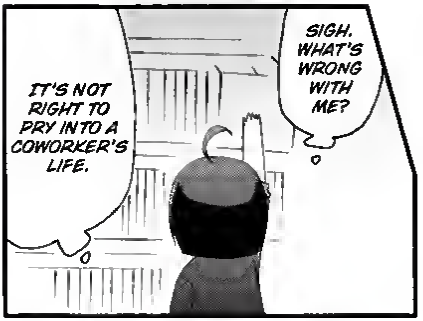
DISTANCE

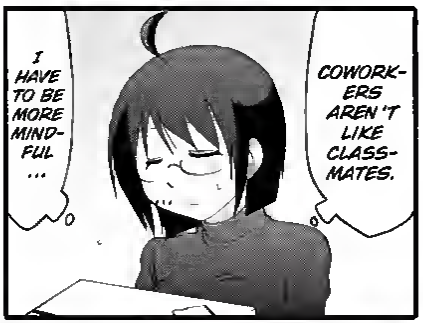




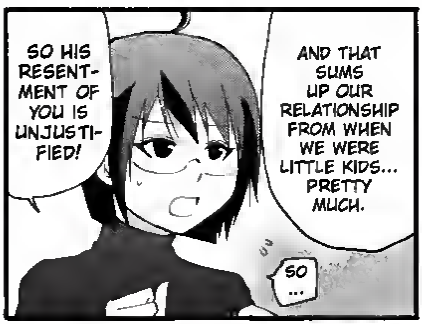


THEIR CLOSENESS

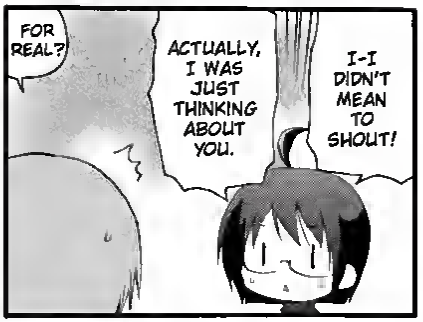


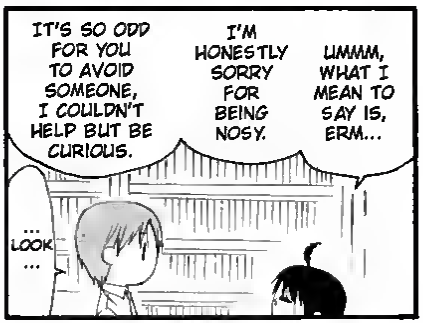


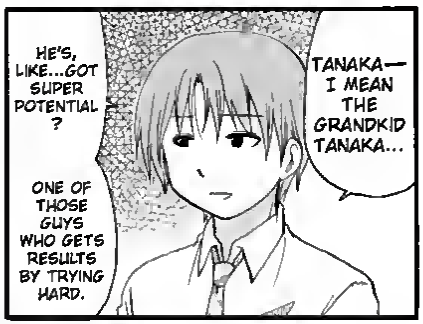
(YOUNG) TANAKA VS HASEBE



(YOUNG) TANAKA & HASEBE

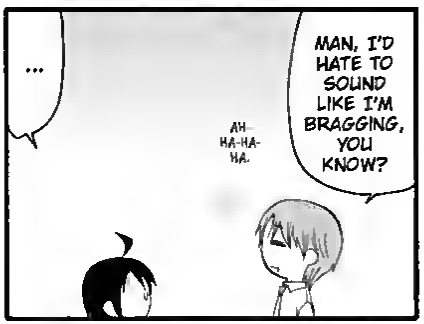



IT'S SO ODD FOR YOU TO AVOID SOMEONE, I COULDN'T HELP BUT BE CURIOUS.
I'M HONESTLY SORRY FOR BEING NOSY.
UMMM, WHAT I MEAN TO SAY IS, ERM...
... LOOK ...

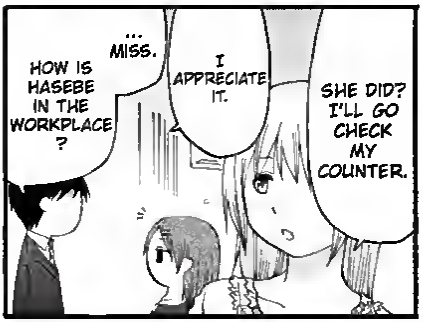


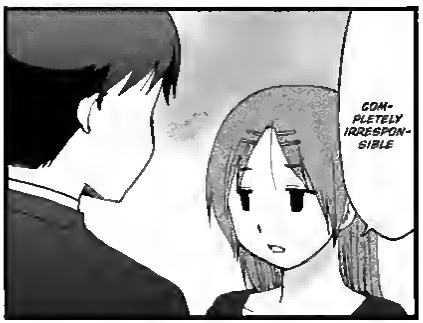
UPS AND DOWNS

ENOUGH ABOUT HIM

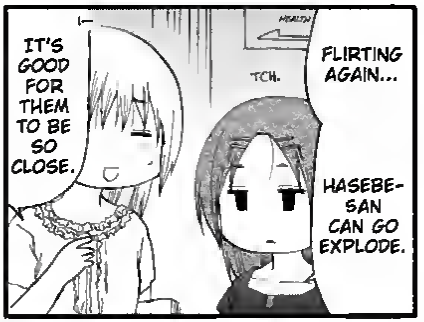


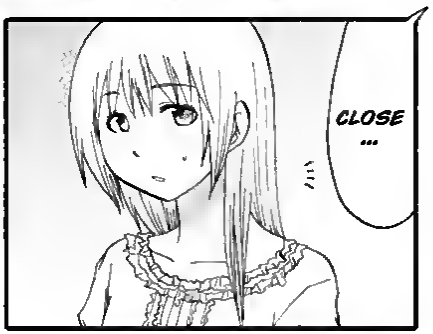
THE MAN KNOWN AS HASEBE

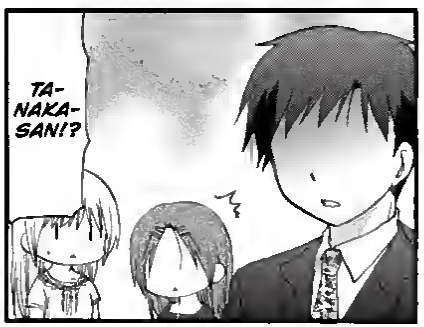




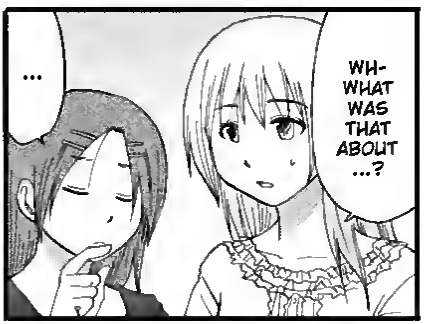
THEIR OWN LITTLE WORLD

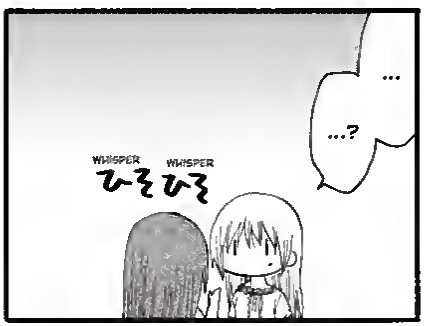




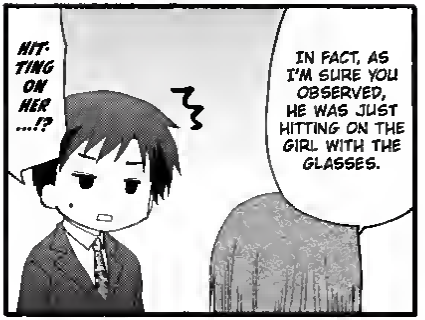


...
THANK YOU FOR FINDING THE HANDBAG
PARDON ME. I HAVE TO GO.
DASH
.....URK.


...
WH-WHAT WAS THAT ABOUT ...?

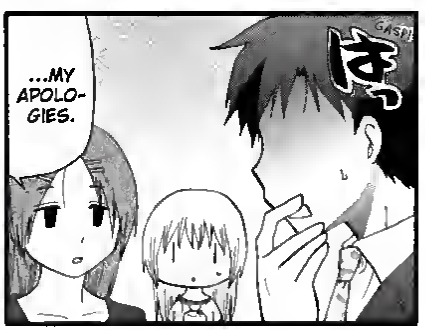

...
...?
WHISPER
WHISPER

...WHAT'S "BL"?
?


HIT-TING ON HER ...!?
IN FACT, AS I'M SURE YOU OBSERVED, HE WAS JUST HITTING ON THE GIRL WITH THE GLASSES.

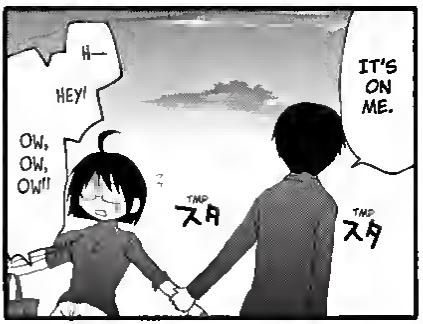
...
I SUPPOSE HE GETS HIS KICKS BY BOTHERING A HARDWORKING GIRL.

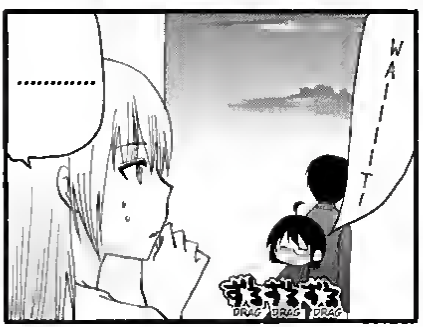
STOP BAD-MOUTHING HASEBE!
HE DOESN'T EVEN MEAN ANY OF IT—


...MY APOLO-GIES.
DASH!

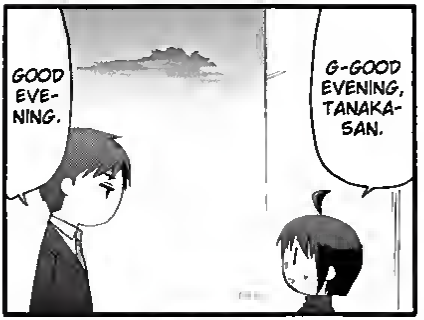
SEE YOU TOMOR-ROW.
SUH-BYYYE!
OOH. LUCY! SEE YA!
NOT LIKE WE WERE DOING ANYTHING ...
BLAH ...
JUST YOU WAIT, BOOKSTORE. HERE I COME!
BECAUSE THE OTHER COMMITTEE MEMBERS ARE BUSY IN THE AFTERNOONS.
HEY, SENPAI, HOW COME WE GOTTA DO THE CARE-NEEDS REVIEW COMMITTEE AFTER CLOSING TIME?
AH!
SERVANT × SERVICE
WORK.3.5

A SERIOUS MATTER



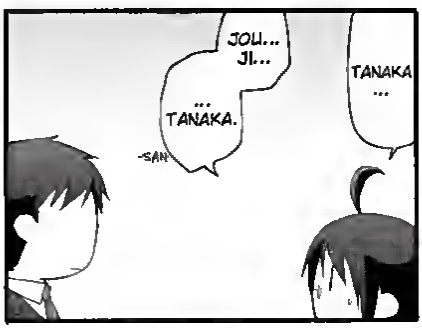


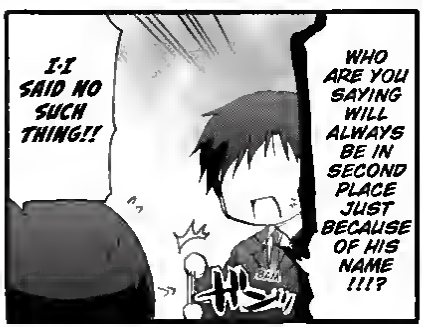
HIS MISSION



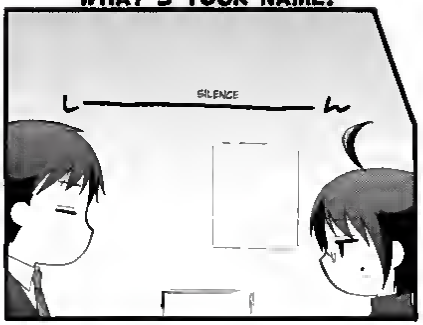
I THINK THEY'RE BOTH STILL INSIDE, BUT THEY'RE ALWAYS AVOIDING HIM...
UHH..
HASEBE-SAN AND MIYOSHI-SAN HAVE ALREADY LEFT FOR THE DAY, ACTUALLY.

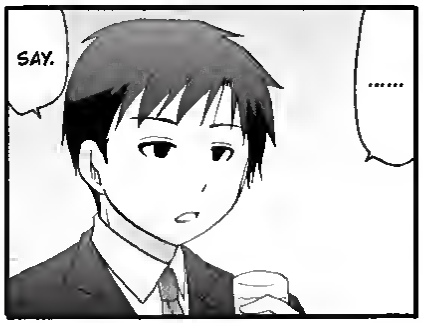
JOUJI TANAKA



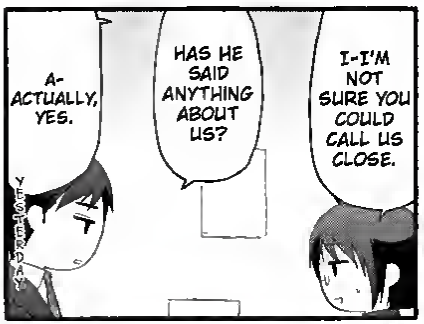


WHAT'S YOUR NAME?





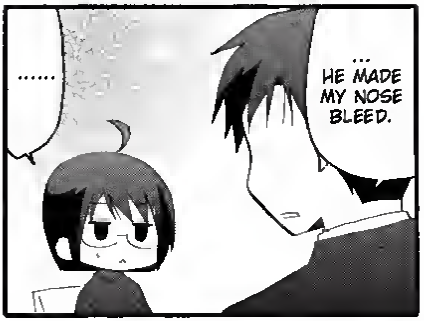
COMPETITION FOR TWO

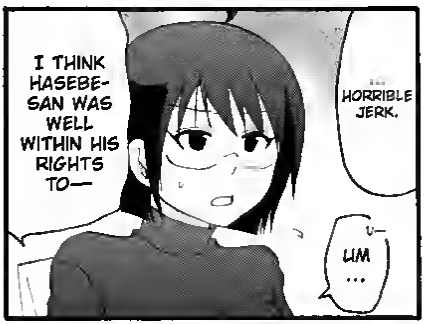


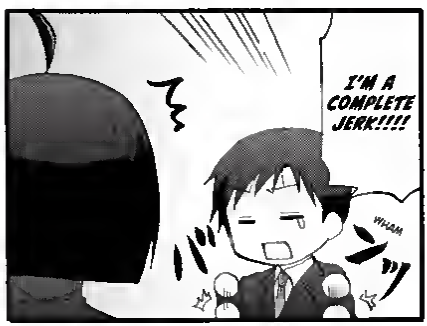
THIS RIVALRY KNOWS NO BOUNDS.
...NOR PLAYING CARDS, NOR HANAFUDA CARDS, NOR MAHJONG, NOR VIDEO GAMES, NOR COOKING, CLEANING, LAUNDRY...

ESCAPE PLAN

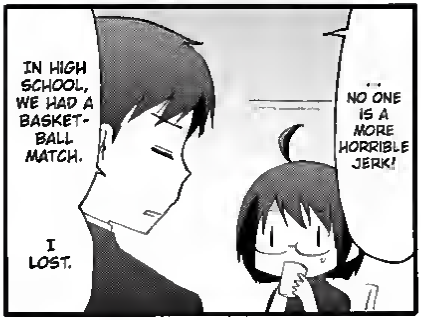
HORRIBLE JERK

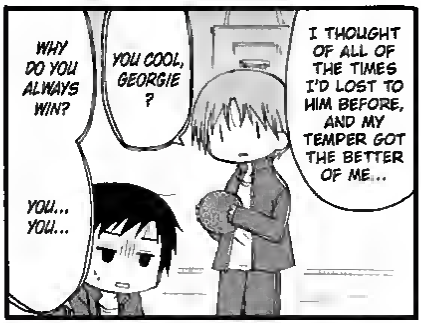


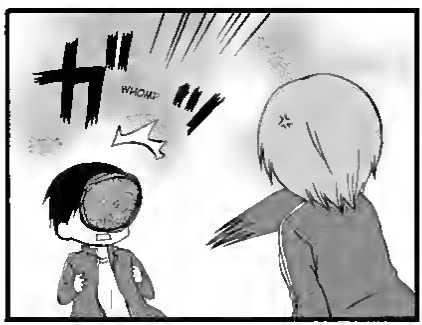




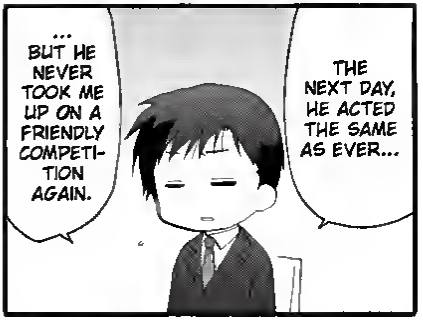
HIS LANDMINE

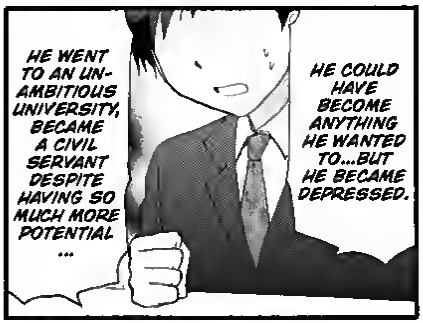



WHY DO YOU ALWAYS WIN?
YOU COOL, GEORGIE ?
I THOUGHT OF ALL OF THE TIMES I'D LOST TO HIM BEFORE, AND MY TEMPER GOT THE BETTER OF ME...
YOU... YOU...

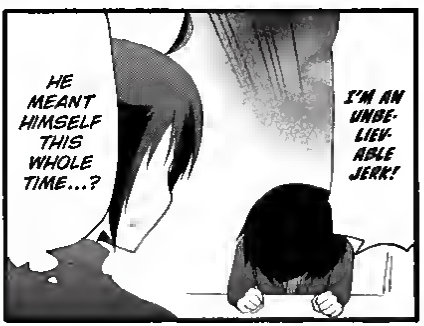


BUT YEAH, WHAT A JERK



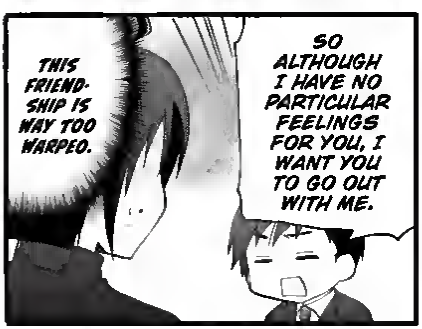

HE WENT TO AN UNAMBITIOUS UNIVERSITY, BECAME A CIVIL SERVANT DESPITE HAVING SO MUCH MORE POTENTIAL...
HE COULD HAVE BECOME ANYTHING HE WANTED TO...BUT HE BECAME DEPRESSED.

UNBELIEVABLY HORRIBLE JERK



VICTORY=FRIENDSHIP

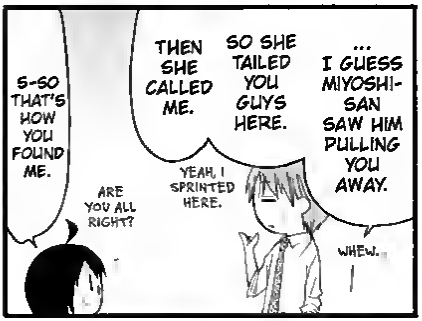
THE ONLY WAY FOR ME TO APOLOGIZE FOR WHAT I SAID...IS TO BEAT HIM.
?
...NEVER BEING FACED WITH SETBACKS OR FAILURE IS AN INSECURITY OF SORTS.



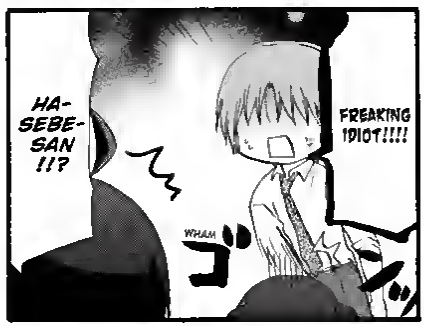
FUELED BY FRIENDSHIP

AS FAR AS I'M AWARE, HASEBE HAS NEVER MADE THE FIRST MOVE BEFORE.
SIGH
OH, NO.
I-I'M FAIRLY CERTAIN THAT HIS... "HITTING" ON ME IS ONLY A JOKE...

AND HE'S BACK


S-SO THAT'S HOW YOU FOUND ME.
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
THEN SHE CALLED ME.
SO SHE TAILED YOU GUYS HERE.
YEAH, I SPRINTED HERE.
... I GUESS MIYOSHI-SAN SAW HIM PULLING YOU AWAY.
WHEW.

TO THE RESCUE



SOBER=DRUNK
I CAN'T APOLOGIZE ENOUGH.
I'M PARTIALLY TO BLAME FOR GIVING YOU TOO MUCH TO DRINK.
N—
NO …
I SAID SOME INSENSITIVE THINGS.
HMM ?
… WHEN YOU WERE SOBER, WHAT WERE YOU PLANNING ON SAYING?
THAT'S NO DIF-FERENT !!
WHAM
I'D PLANNED ON ASKING HER TO DATE M—
STRANGER
… AH.
HE'S ALREADY SO OVER-DRAMATIC WHEN HE'S SOBER THAT I DIDN'T REALIZE HE WAS DRUNK.
HASEBE!
?
MIYOSHI-CHAN GAVE ME A MESSAGE FOR YA.
…IS A STRANG-ER TO ME.
ANYONE WHO DRAGS OTHERS AWAY AGAINST THEIR WILL…
OH DEAR. THAT BROUGHT HIM DOWN …

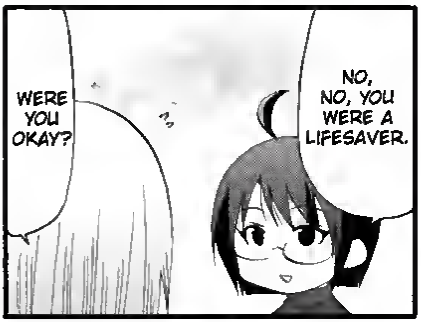
FUELED BY WORK ETHIC
FUELED BY GENIUS
DID YOUR GENIUS GIVE YOU A MENTAL BREAKDOWN...?
NO!
AH, MAN! WHAT THE HECK!
IT'S NOTHING LIKE THAT!!
.....
TAP
TAP
I THREW THAT BALL AT HIM BECAUSE I GOT A LITTLE PISSED, THAT'S ALL...
BUT HE'S SO STRAIGHT-LACED THAT HE READ TOO MUCH INTO IT AND FEELS ALL GUILTY.
...HASEBE-SAN, I'M SO SORRY. YOU'RE ALWAYS BAILING ME OUT OF SOMETHING.
HUH? NAH.
I SHOULD APOLOGIZE
I MEAN, THIS TIME I WAS THE CAUSE OF IT.
EVER SINCE, THE DUDE WON'T LEAVE ME ALONE.
HE KEEPS TRYING TO ATONE OR WHATEVER. IT'S A REAL PAIN.
...I'M SURPRISED HE DIDN'T ENTER THE SAME UNIVERSITY AS YOU, THEN.
...SO UH... WHAT DID YOU TALK ABOUT?
LET'S SEE... MOSTLY ABOUT YOU...
EH?
DH, HE DID.
SO I TRANSFERRED OUT.
HE RAN!
FOR EXAMPLE, A BASKETBALL GAME YOU PLAYED IN HIGH SCHOOL.
GAH!
FORGET YOU EVER HEARD THAT!

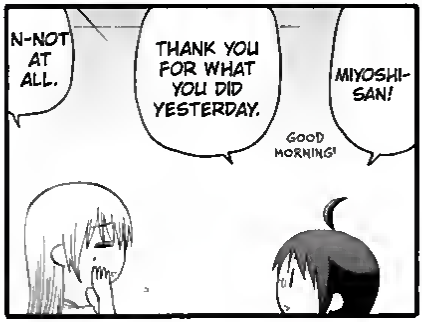
WONDERFUL LIFE
IT'S THE TRUTH!!
YOU SURE ABOUT THAT?
HA HA-HA
I DO EAT! IT WAS A FIGURE OF SPEECH!
YOU'RE GETTING OFF TOPIC!!
THAT'S COMMEND-ABLE, YES.
WORKING HARD OR USING YOUR TALENTS TO GET INTO AN IMPRESSIVE FIELD...
...LIVING A LIFE THAT YOU YOURSELF ENJOY EVERY DAY... IS A MORE WONDERFUL THING TO STRIVE FOR...
BUT...EVEN IF OTHERS THINK YOU SHOULD BE MORE AMBITIOUS OR SEE YOUR LIFE AS A WASTE OF POTENTIAL...
.....IN MY OPINION.
HAPPY LIFE
ANY-THING, HUH?
...
SIGH
HE SAID THAT YOU COULD HAVE BECOME ANYTHING YOU WANTED.
L—
LISTEN...
...
SAD THING IS, I GOT NOTHING I WANT TO BE...
HA-HA-HA
?
UH-HUH.
I... I LOVE BOOKS. HONESTLY, I WOULD BE HAPPY LIVING AN UNREMARKABLE LIFE SO LONG AS I CAN SPEND THAT LIFE BUYING BOOKS, BORROWING BOOKS, I LOVE THEM SO MUCH...
EAT ALL YOUR MEALS.
SO MUCH THAT I COULD GO WITHOUT FOOD!

FUELED BY BEWILDERMENT
YOU HEAD ON HOME.
OKAY. LOOK, THERE'S THE STATION.
STATION
HASE...
WHIRL
I'M WALKING HOME.
RIGHT. W-WAIT, WHAT WILL YOU DO?
YEAH. YEAH, I GUESS IT IS. AH-HA-HA-HA-HA.
UH. YEAH?
WHAT!? BUT YOUR APARTMENT IS ABOUT TEN STOPS AWAY!!
IT'S TOO FAR!
YOU'RE DOING IT ANYWAY!?
LATERS!!
HIS HEARTSTRINGS
...
...I'M SORRY. I CAN'T QUITE...
S-SORRY FOR PUTTING MY NOSE INTO YOUR BUSINESS.
...STAHP.
BUT KEEP THIS UP, AND I'M GONNA BE, LIKE.. HEAD OVER HEELS FOR YOU. NO JOKE.
SO STOP.
I WAS ALREADY PRETTY SERIOUS ABOUT YOU.

I WAS WORRIED THAT FOLLOWING YOU AND CALLING HASEBE-SAN...
...MIGHT BE MEDDLING TOO MUCH...

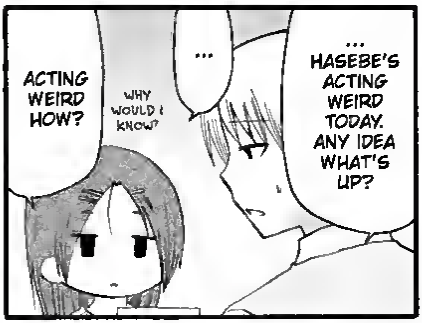
YAMA-GAMI-SAN?

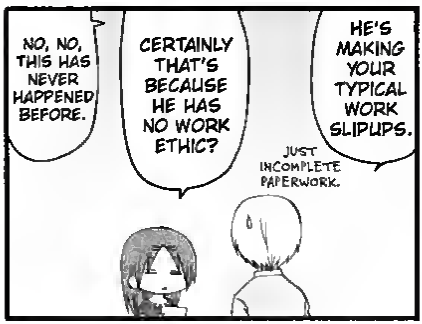

NO, NO, YOU WERE A LIFESAVER.
WERE YOU OKAY?


N-NOT AT ALL.
THANK YOU FOR WHAT YOU DID YESTERDAY.
MIYOSHI-SAN!
GOOD MORNING!

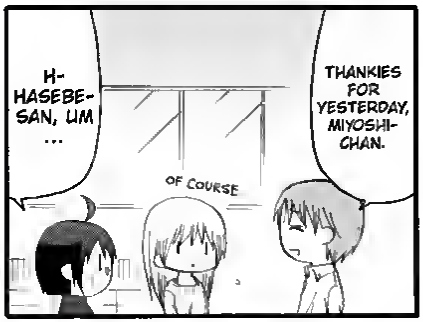
SERVANT×SERVICE
DID THAT NO-GOOD SCUMBAG DO ANYTHING TO YOU?
MIYOSHI-SAN'S OPINION OF (YOUNG) TANAKA-SAN IS IN TATTERS.
WORK:36

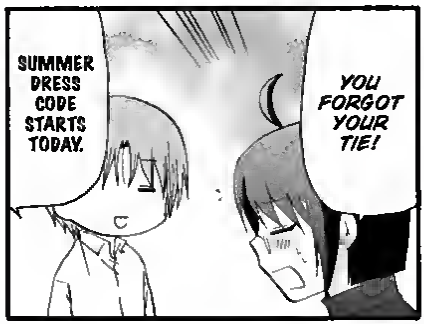
DIFFERENT THAN YESTERDAY INSIDE




NO, NO, THIS HAS NEVER HAPPENED BEFORE.
CERTAINLY THAT'S BECAUSE HE HAS NO WORK ETHIC?
JUST INCOMPLETE PAPERWORK.
HE'S MAKING YOUR TYPICAL WORK SLIPUPS.

DIFFERENT THAN YESTERDAY OUTSIDE

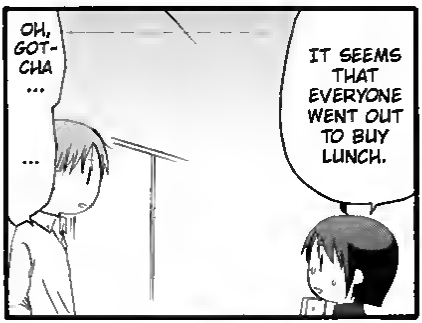


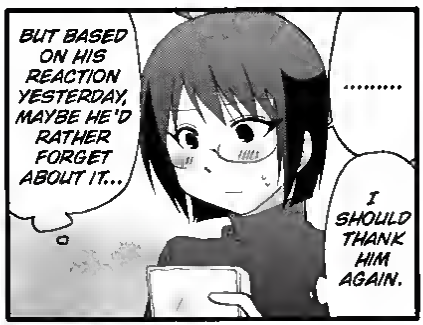


USING POINTS

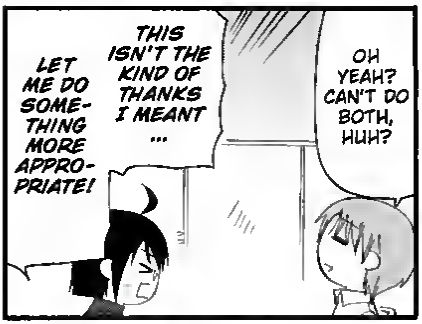
...I'LL DO ANY-THING !!
YES !!
WE DID JUST GET PAID.
'KAY, CAN I CASH THEM IN?
ALL THE POINTS
GLEAM
OH YEAH, I WAS SAVING UP POINTS WITH YOU, WASN'T I?

SENSITIVITY

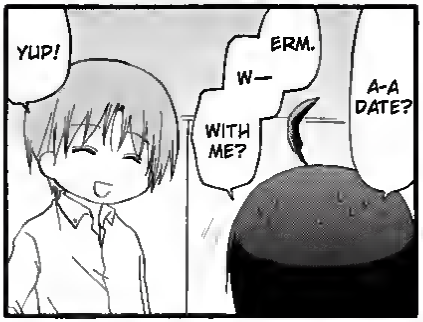


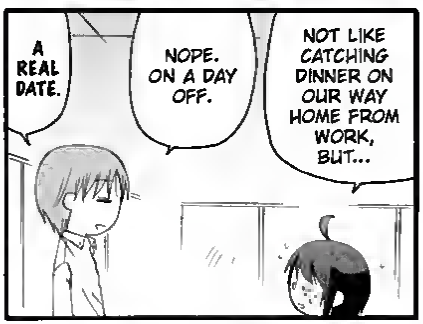


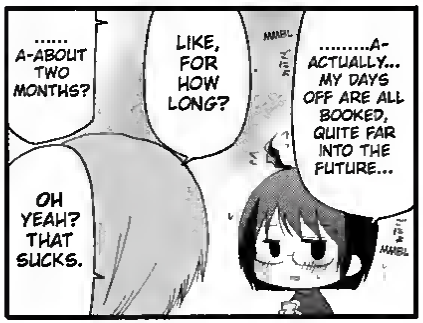
IF I HAD TO CHOOSE



DATE PLANS

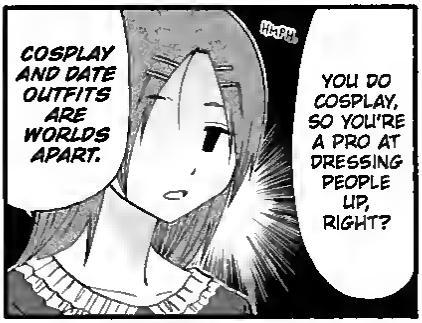


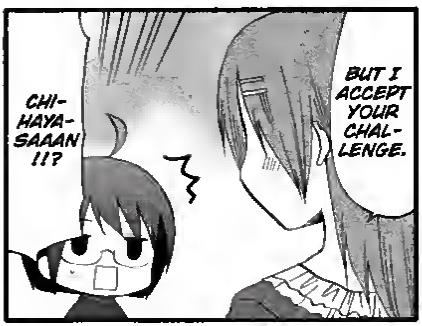


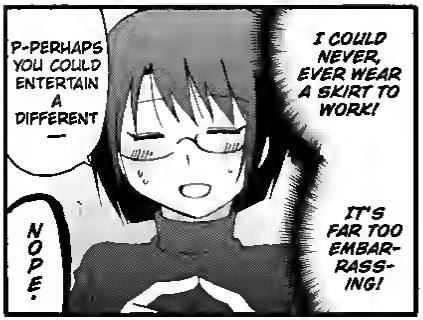


FORCING HER INTO A DATE? THIS IS TRUE HARASSMENT.
I HEARD THE WHOLE THING.
I KNEW YOU'D SHOW, CHIHAYA-CHAN.

... UP TO YOU.
...I'LL LEAVE HER CHOICE OF OUTFIT ...

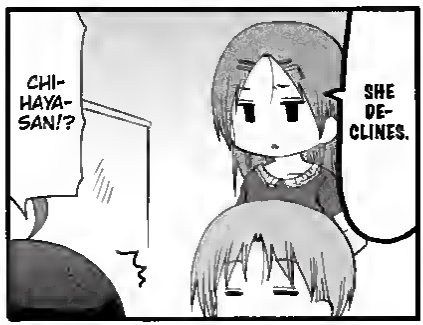

COSPLAY AND DATE OUTFITS ARE WORLDS APART.
HMPH!
YOU DO COSPLAY, SO YOU'RE A PRO AT DRESSING PEOPLE UP, RIGHT?


CHI-HAYA-SAAAN!!?
BUT I ACCEPT YOUR CHALLENGE.

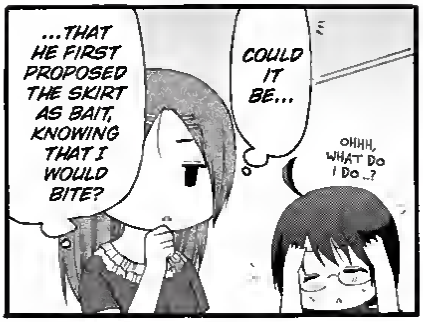

P-PERHAPS YOU COULD ENTERTAIN A DIFFERENT —
NOPE.
I COULD NEVER, EVER WEAR A SKIRT TO WORK!
IT'S FAR TOO EMBARRASSING!

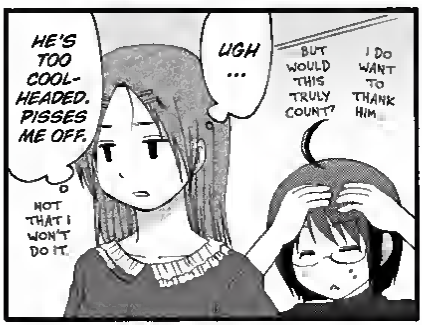
CHOOSE ONE OR THE OTHER.
WEAR A SKIRT TO WORK.
OR WEAR A SKIRT ON A DATE.

BETTER THAN EVERYONE AT WORK SEEING ME IN ONE ...
THEN I CHOOSE THE DA—
TH
THOSE EYES ARE SERIOUS!

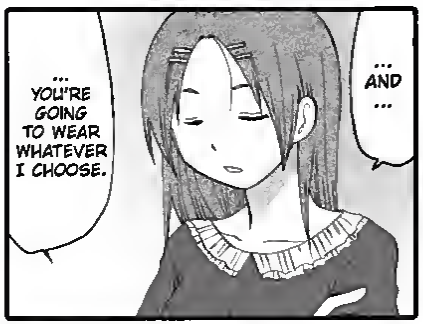

CHI-HAYA-SAN!?
SHE DE-CLINES.

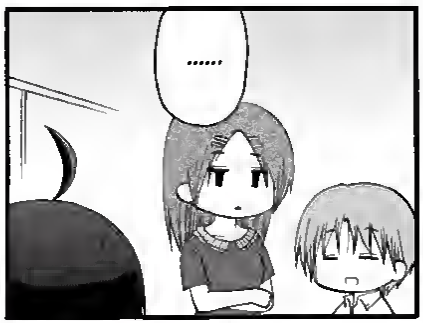
TWO SIDES

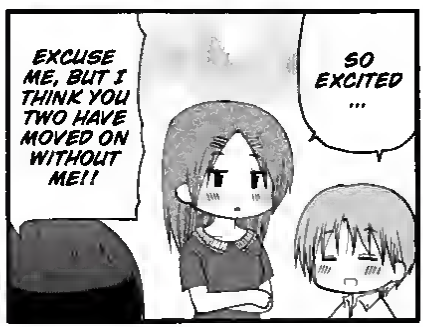




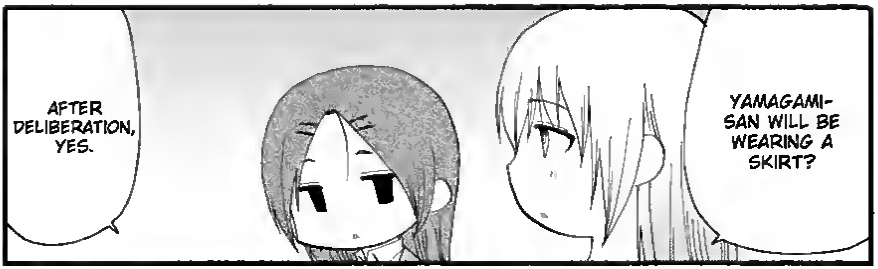
EXCITEMENT LEVELS



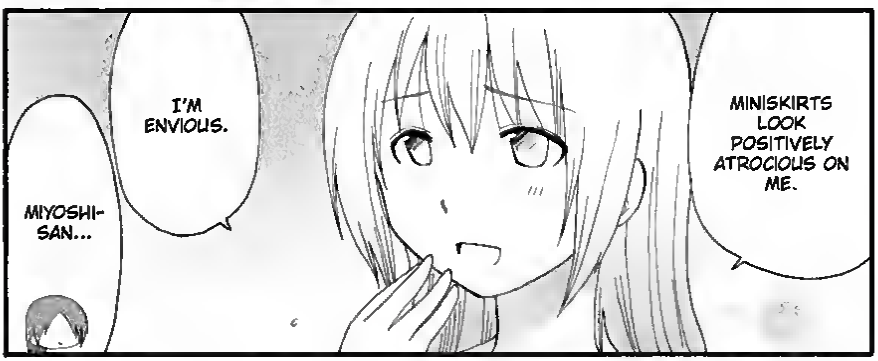




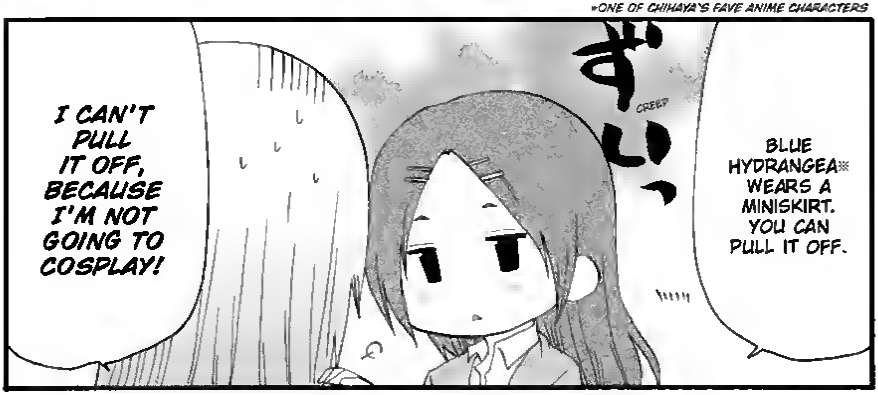
JOUJI TANAKA 22 YEARS OLD
A HARDWORKING, HOPELESS HUMAN BEING. A PECULIAR CHARACTER WHO, WHEN I TRY TO HANDLE HIM SERIOUSLY, ENDS UP LOOKING LIKE AN IDIOT ANYWAY. OCCASIONALLY I DRAW HIS PART IN THE WRONG PLACE.
I CANNOT APOLOGIZE ENOUGH, YAMAGAMI-SAN.
OH!
FORGOT IT AT THE OFFICE.
WHERE'S YOUR JACKET?
THANK YOU
I'LL WALK YOU.
YOU GOIN' HOME?
...VIA E-MAIL.
I WILL APOLOGIZE AGAIN...
H-HASEBE-SAN, I'M ALL RIGHT! PLEASE STOP HITTING HIM!
!?
!?
すぽーん
SMACK
I STILL DON'T HAVE HER E-MAIL ADDRESS!

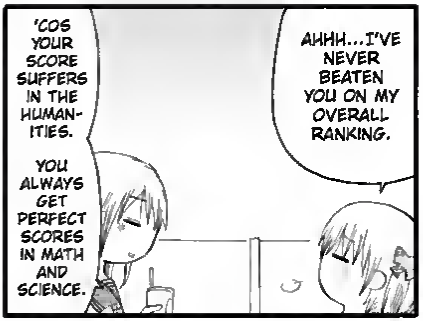


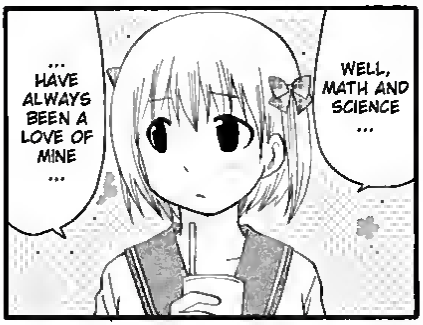
HOW NICE. I'M SURE SHE'LL LOOK LOVELY.
DON'T YOU THINK SHE'D BE CUTE IN A MINISKIRT?
AH YES, A MINISKIRT WOULD BE NICE...
IF SHE WOULD WEAR ONE

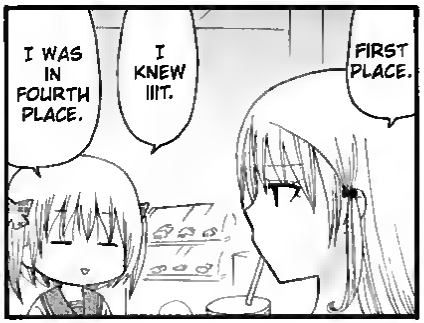


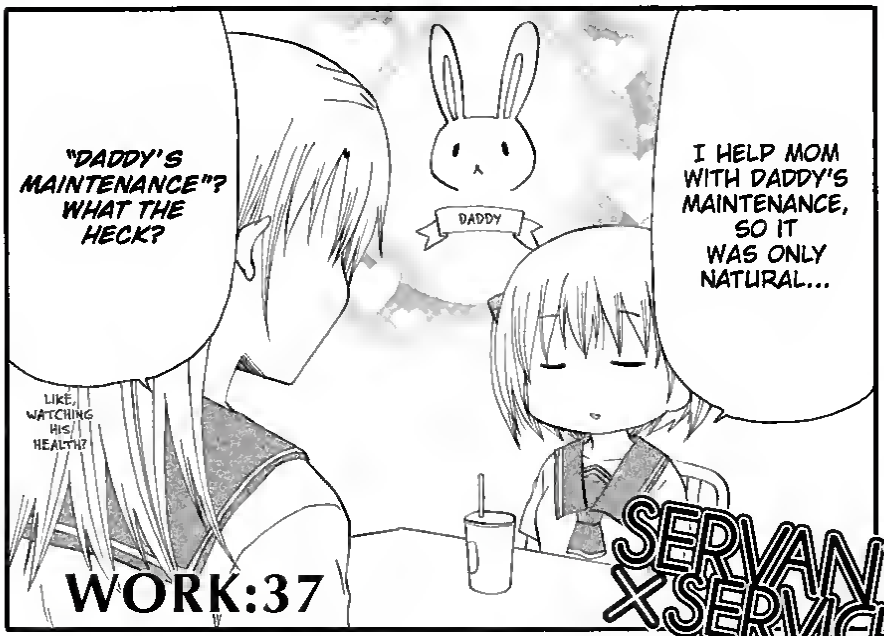
▼ONE OF CHIHAYA'S FAVE ANIME CHARACTERS




'COS YOUR SCORE SUFFERS IN THE HUMANITIES.
YOU ALWAYS GET PERFECT SCORES IN MATH AND SCIENCE.
AHHH...I'VE NEVER BEATEN YOU ON MY OVERALL RANKING.



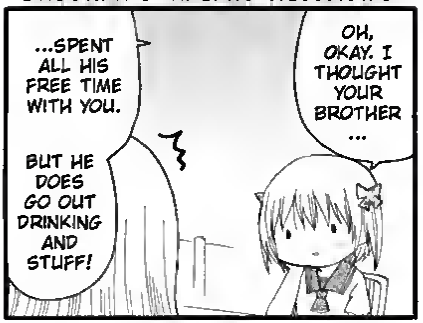


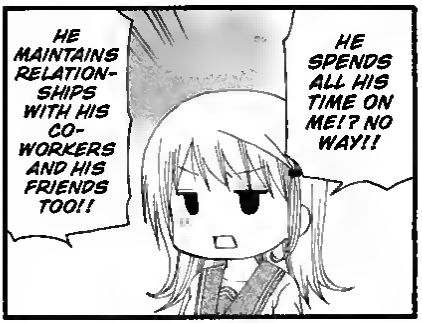

"DADDY'S MAINTENANCE"? WHAT THE HECK?
LIKE, WATCHING HIS HEALTH?
DADDY
I HELP MOM WITH DADDY'S MAINTENANCE, SO IT WAS ONLY NATURAL...

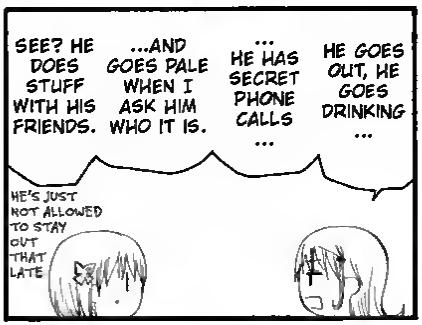
WORK:37

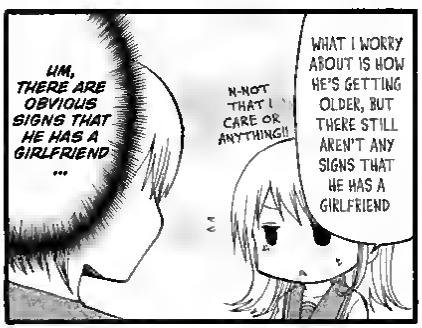
SERVANT × SERVICE

BROTHER'S RECENT ACTIVITIES

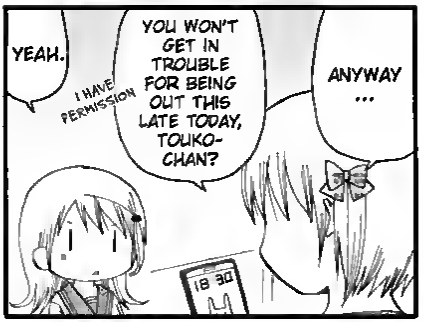


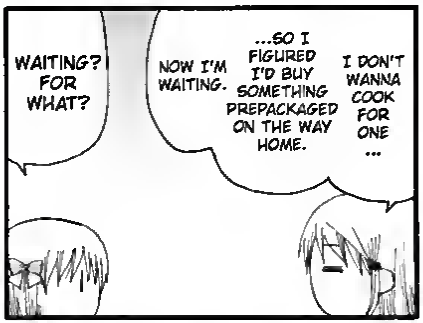


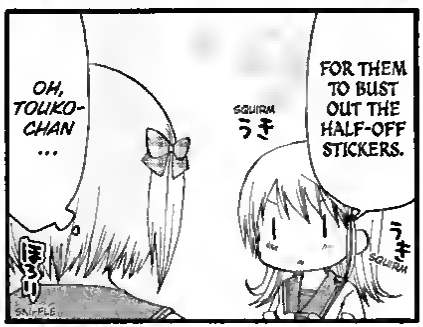

SEE? HE DOES STUFF WITH HIS FRIENDS.
...AND GOES PALE WHEN I ASK HIM WHO IT IS.
... HE HAS SECRET PHONE CALLS ...
HE GOES OUT, HE GOES DRINKING ...
HE'S JUST NOT ALLOWED TO STAY OUT THAT LATE


UM, THERE ARE OBVIOUS SIGNS THAT HE HAS A GIRLFRIEND ...
N-NOT THAT I CARE OR ANYTHING!!
WHAT I WORRY ABOUT IS HOW HE'S GETTING OLDER, BUT THERE STILL AREN'T ANY SIGNS THAT HE HAS A GIRLFRIEND

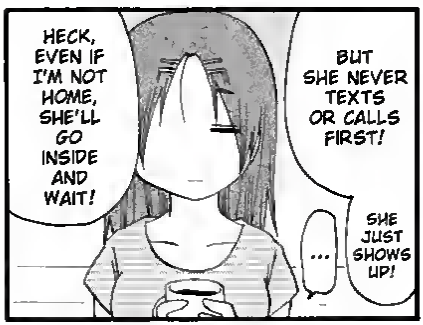
TODAY'S TOUKO



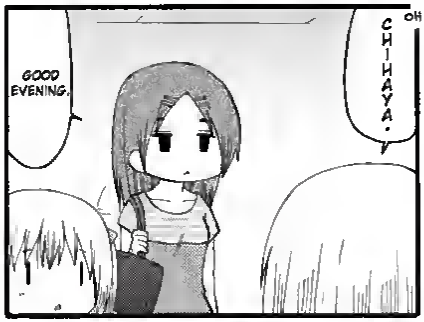


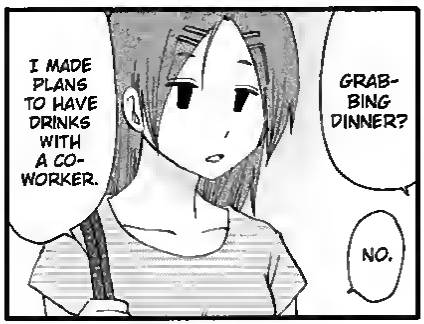


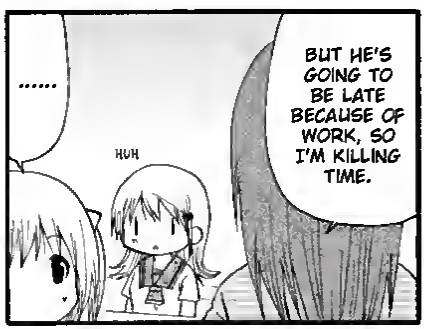
THE ICHIMIYAS AND CHIHAYA



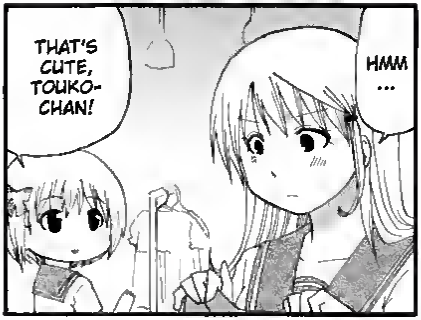
CHIHAYA'S PLANS

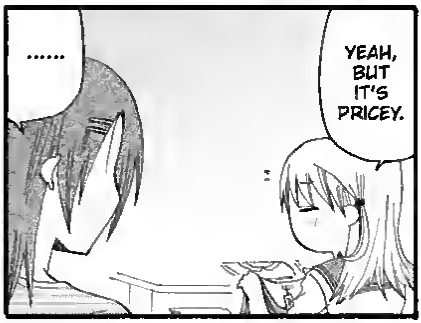


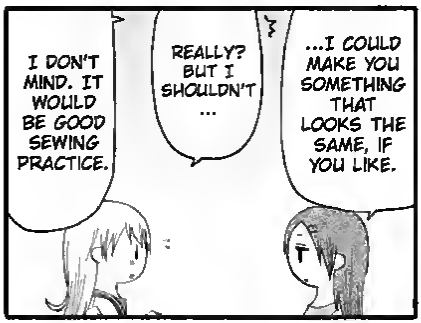


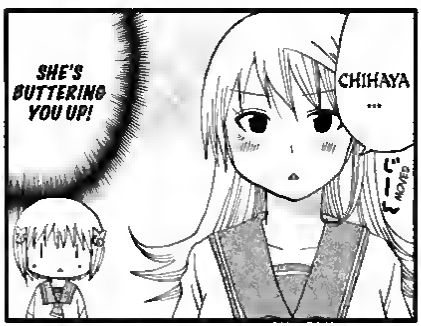


TOUKO AND CHIHAYA





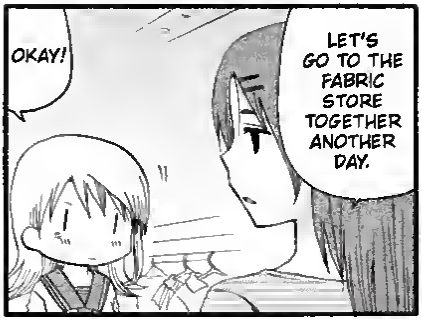

I DON'T MIND. IT WOULD BE GOOD SEWING PRACTICE.
REALLY? BUT I SHOULDN'T ...
...I COULD MAKE YOU SOMETHING THAT LOOKS THE SAME, IF YOU LIKE.

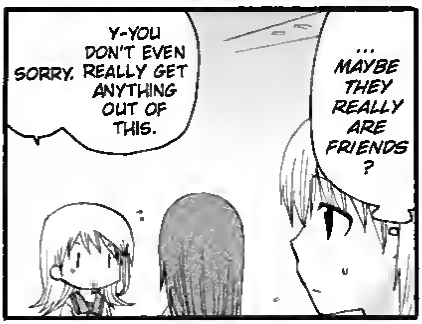


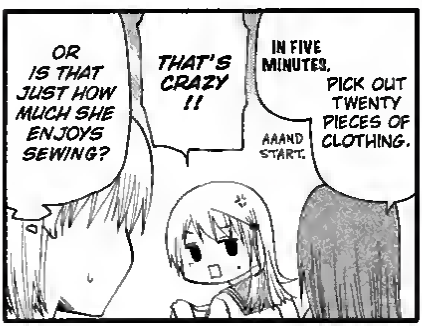
CHILLS

PUT TWO AND TWO TOGETHER, TOUKO-CHAN!!
IT CERTAINLY IS A CRAZY COINCI DENCE.
MY BROTHER SAID HE'D BE DRINKING WITH A COWORKER AROUND NOW TOO.

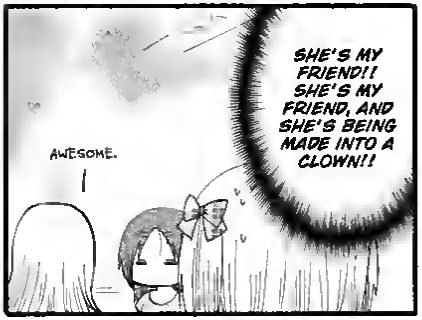
CHIHAYA'S AIM

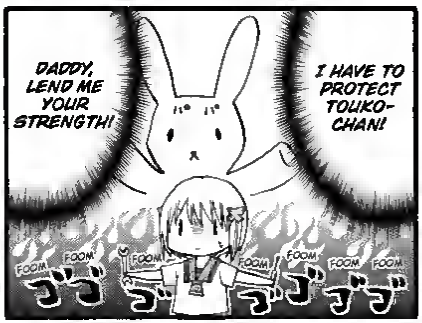


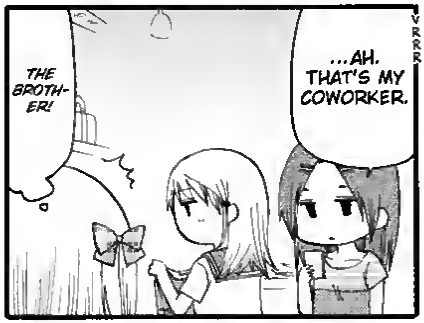


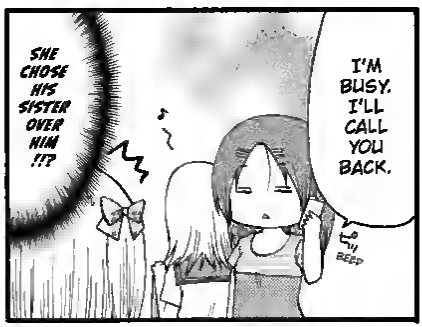


TOUKO (BROTHER) AND CHIHAYA

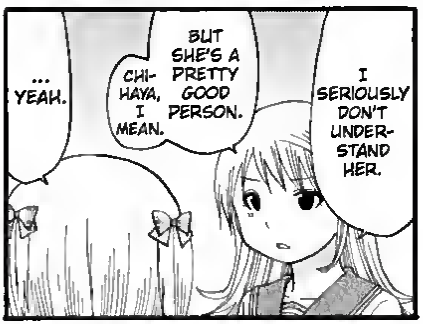


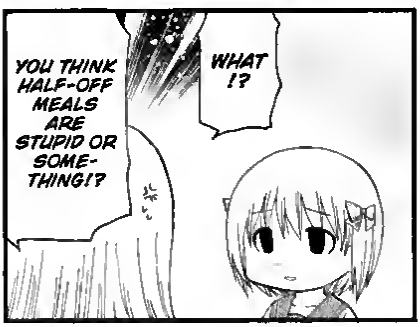




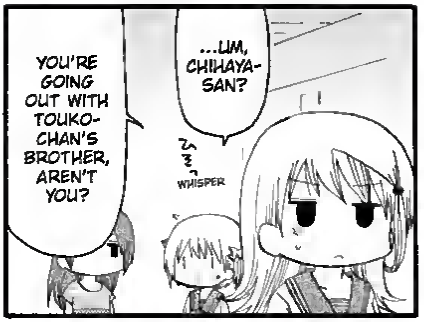


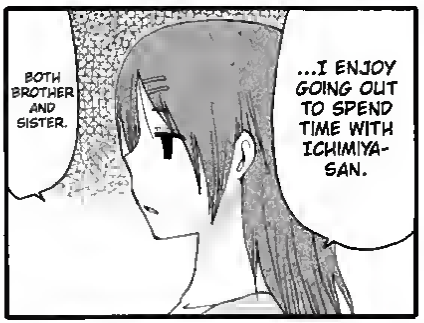
KANON'S THOUGHTS

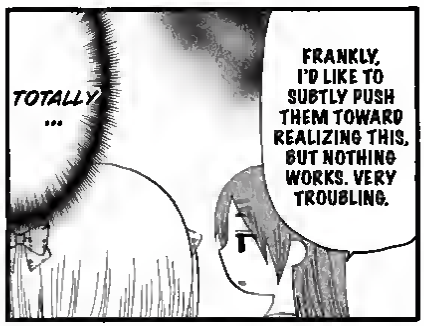


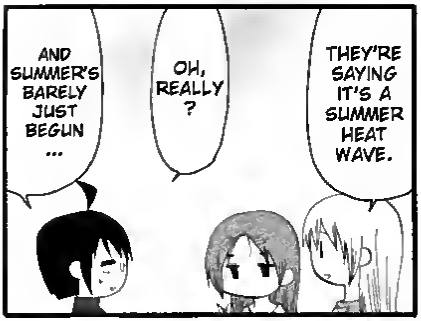


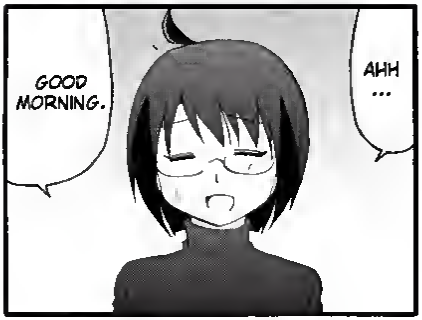
CHIHAYA'S AIM

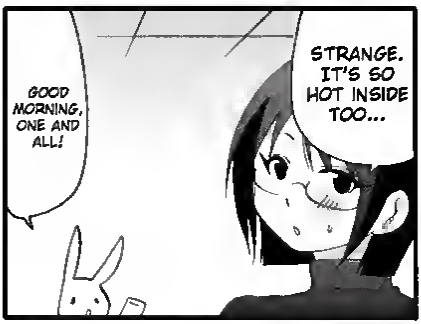


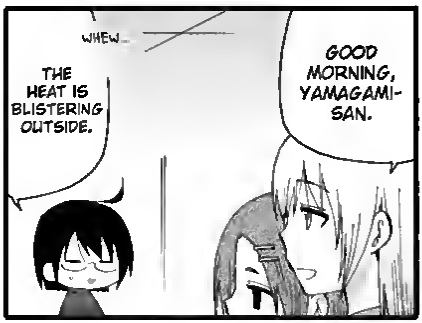


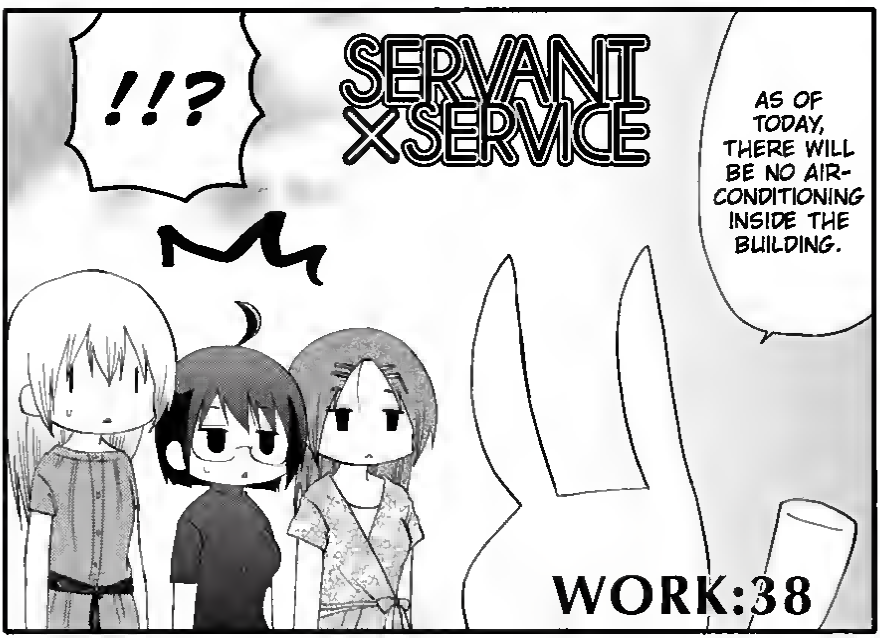



THEY'RE SAYING IT'S A SUMMER HEAT WAVE.
OH, REALLY ?
AND SUMMER'S BARELY JUST BEGUN ...

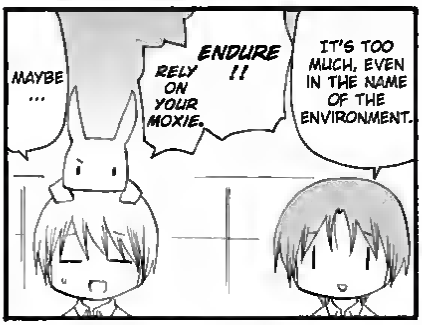

GOOD MORNING.
AHH ...

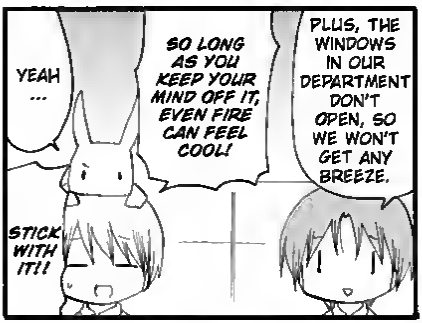

STRANGE. IT'S SO HOT INSIDE TOO...
GOOD MORNING, ONE AND ALL!

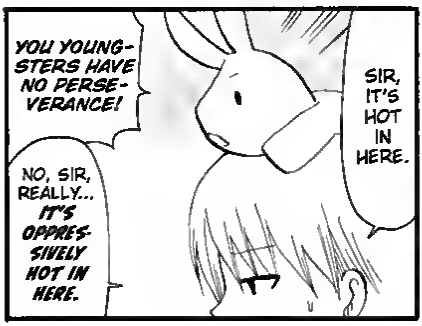

GOOD MORNING, YAMAGAMI-SAN.
WHEW...
THE HEAT IS BLISTERING OUTSIDE.


!!?
SERVANT X SERVICE
AS OF TODAY, THERE WILL BE NO AIR-CONDITIONING INSIDE THE BUILDING.
WORK:38

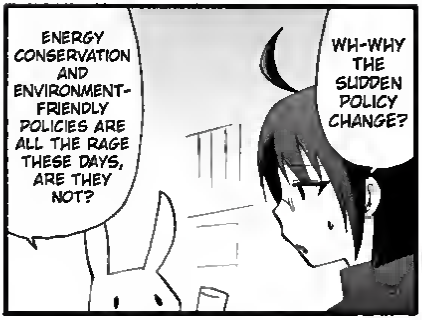
FOR REAL THOUGH, IT'S HOT

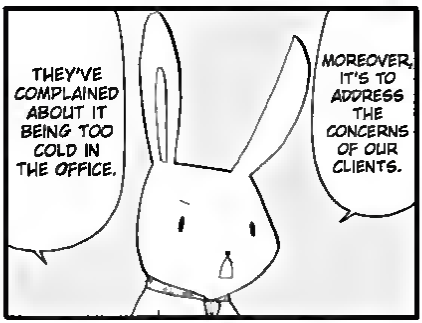


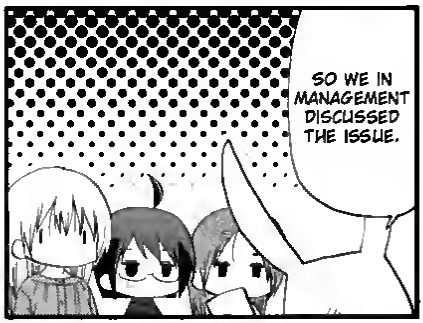

YEAH...
SO LONG AS YOU KEEP YOUR MIND OFF IT, EVEN FIRE CAN FEEL COOL!
PLUS, THE WINDOWS IN OUR DEPARTMENT DON'T OPEN, SO WE WON'T GET ANY BREEZE.
STICK WITH IT!!



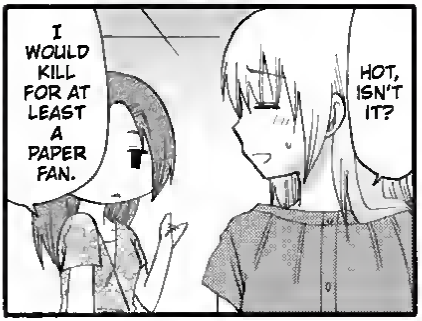
COLD IS THE ENEMY

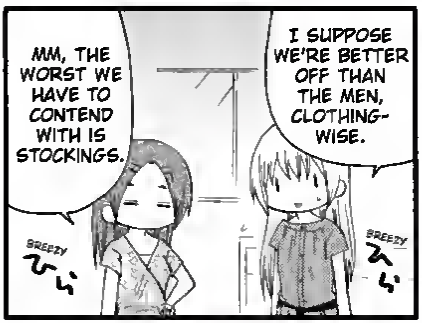

ENERGY CONSERVATION AND ENVIRONMENT-FRIENDLY POLICIES ARE ALL THE RAGE THESE DAYS, ARE THEY NOT?
WH-WHY THE SUDDEN POLICY CHANGE?

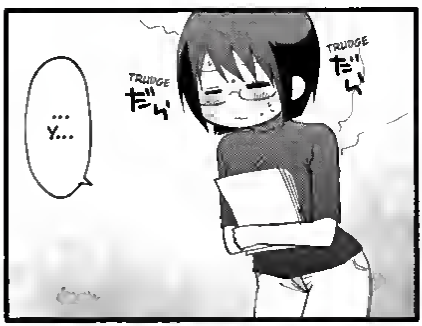


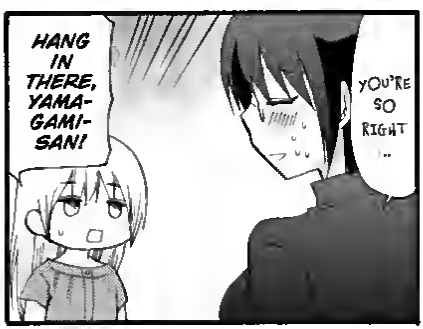


SUMMER WEAR

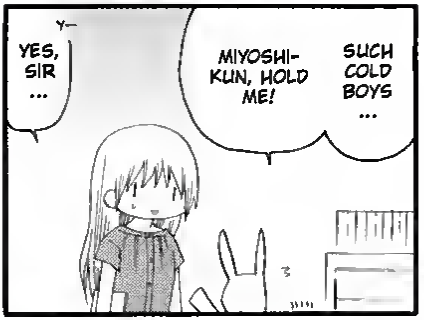


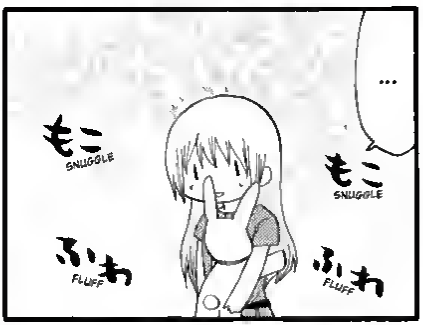




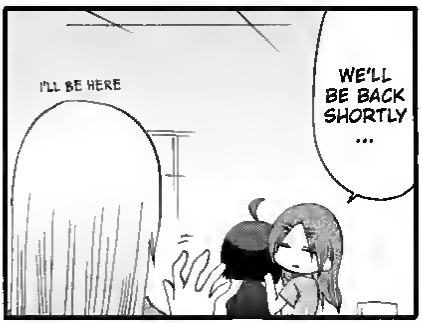


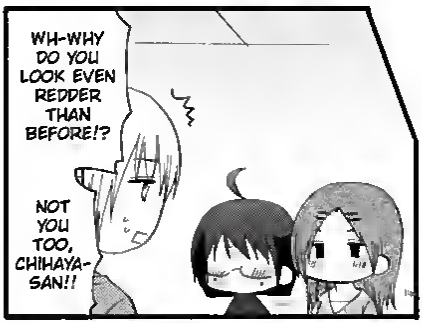
ENERGY TRANSFER



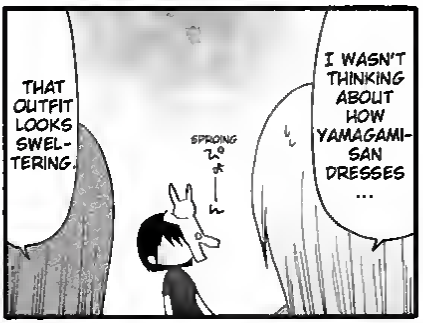


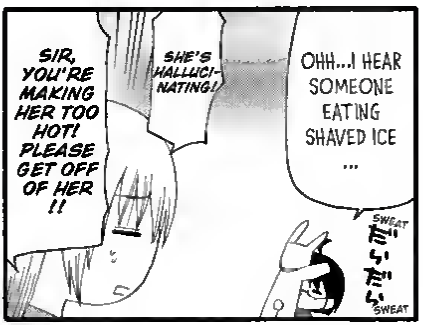
A NEW KIND OF ENERGY



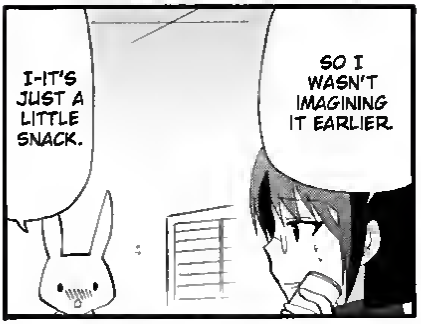


THE ENERGY ACROSS THE WAY

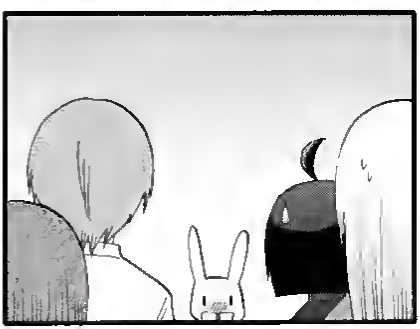




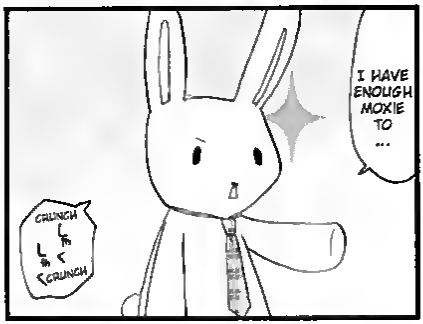
STRONGHOLD OF DIGNITY

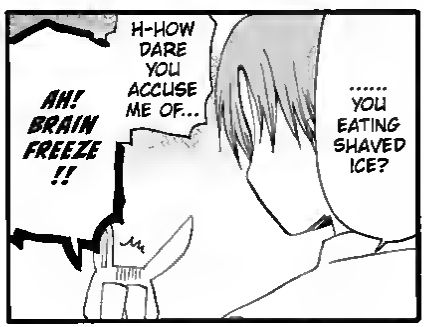


TH—
THAT IS NOT TRUE!
I BET YOU STRIPPED DOWN SO YOU CAN LAZE ABOUT.
ARE YOU TAKING ADVANTAGE OF YOUR REAL BODY BEING ELSEWHERE...?

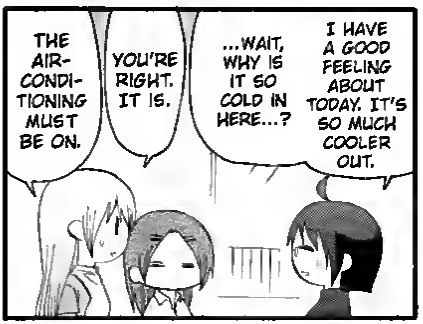


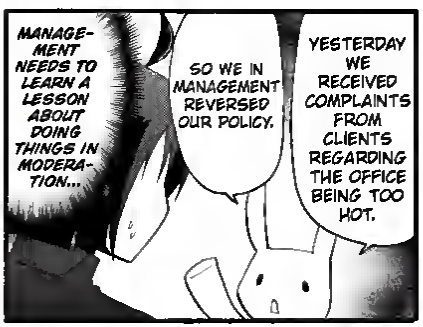
SOURCE OF THE CHIEF'S ENERGY



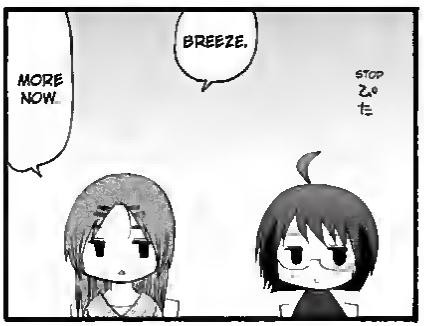


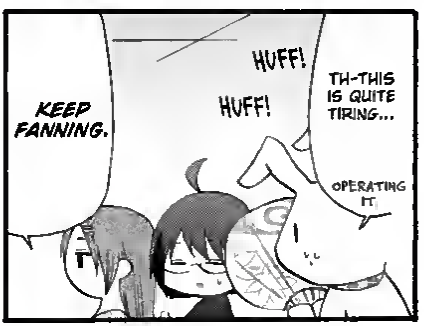
HEAT IS ALSO THE ENEMY


THE AIR-CONDITIONING MUST BE ON.
YOU'RE RIGHT. IT IS.
...WAIT, WHY IS IT SO COLD IN HERE...?
I HAVE A GOOD FEELING ABOUT TODAY. IT'S SO MUCH COOLER OUT.

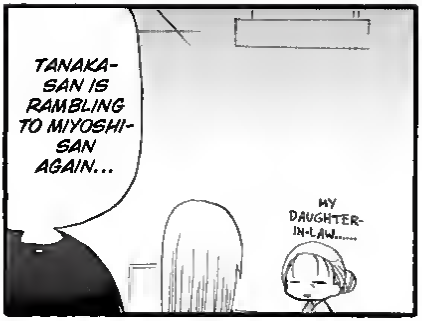

MANAGEMENT NEEDS TO LEARN A LESSON ABOUT DOING THINGS IN MODERATION...
SO WE IN MANAGEMENT REVERSED OUR POLICY.
YESTERDAY WE RECEIVED COMPLAINTS FROM CLIENTS REGARDING THE OFFICE BEING TOO HOT.

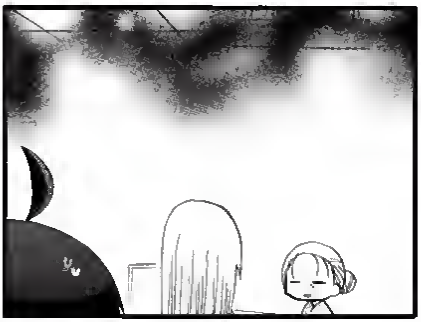
A NEW BREEZE

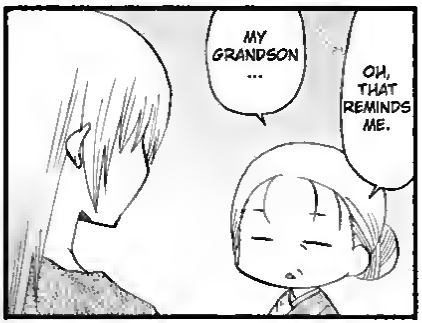


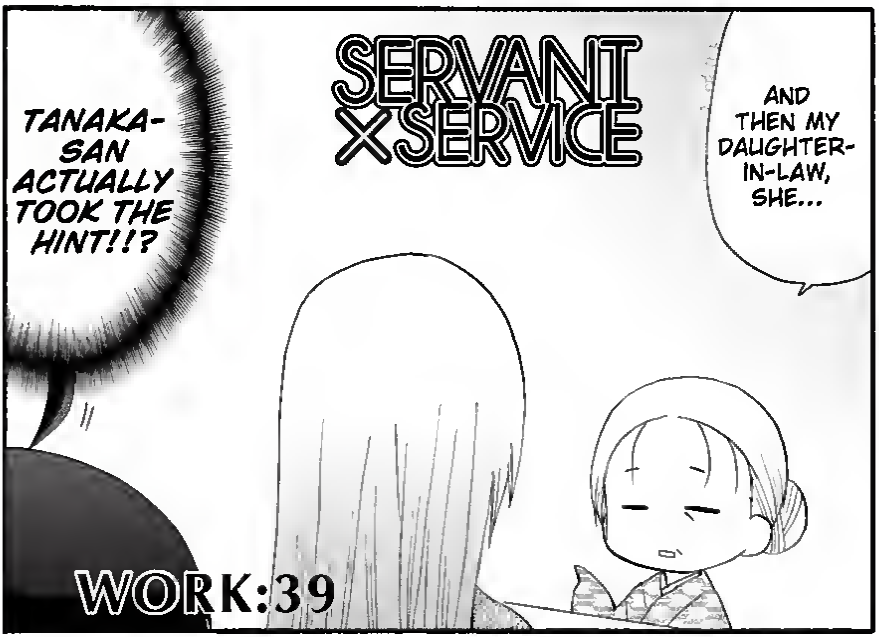


TANAKA-SAN?
LET'S NOT TALK ABOUT YOUR GRAND-SON.

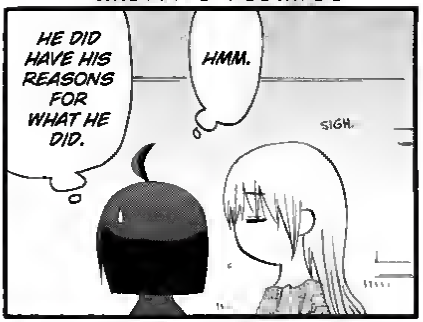

TANAKA-SAN IS RAMBLING TO MIYOSHI-SAN AGAIN...
MY DAUGHTER-IN-LAW.....

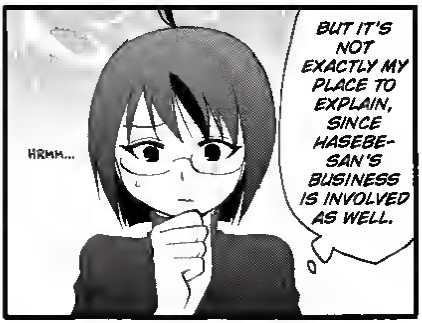



MY GRANDSON ...
OH, THAT REMINDS ME.

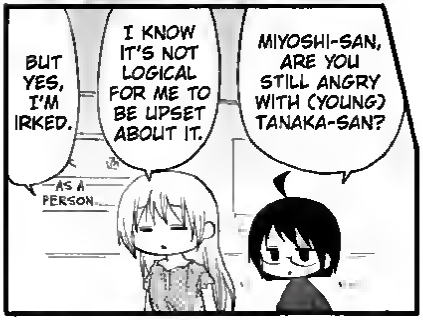

SERVANT×SERVICE
TANAKA-SAN ACTUALLY TOOK THE HINT!!?
AND THEN MY DAUGHTER-IN-LAW, SHE...
WORK:39

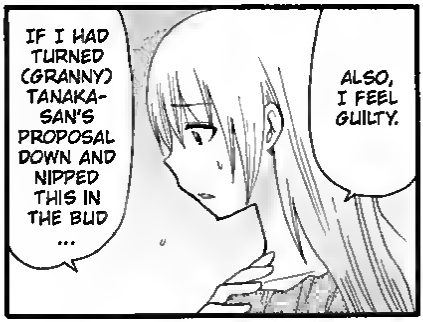
HASEBE'S BUSINESS

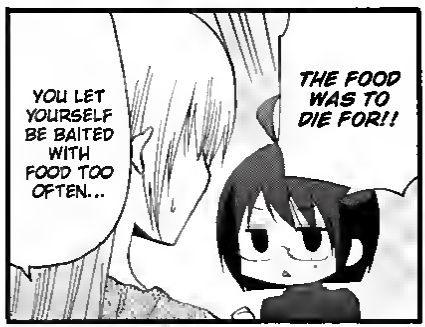




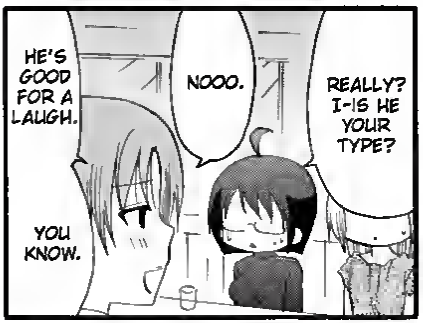
YAMAGAMI & SILVER LININGS

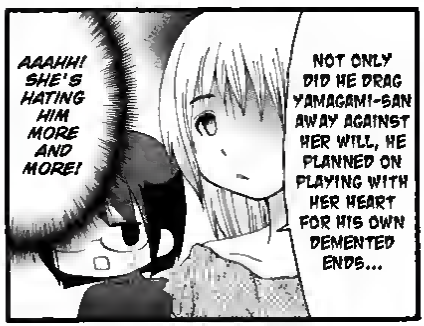

BUT YES, I'M IRKED.
I KNOW IT'S NOT LOGICAL FOR ME TO BE UPSET ABOUT IT.
AS A PERSON...
MIYOSHI-SAN, ARE YOU STILL ANGRY WITH (YOUNG) TANAKA-SAN?



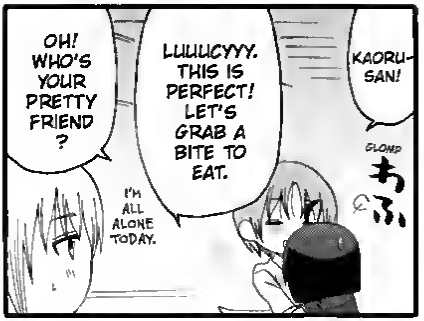


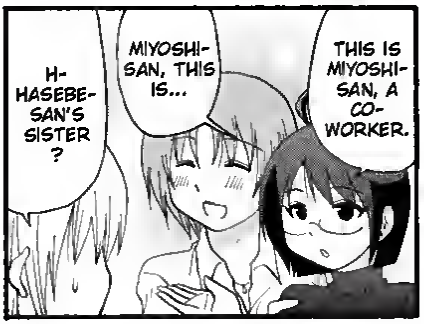
MIYOSHI'S RAGE METER MAXED OUT

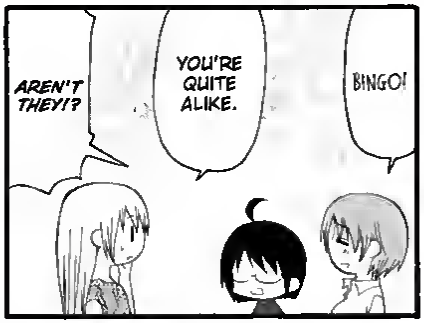



NOT ONLY DID HE DRAG YAMAGAMI-SAN AWAY AGAINST HER WILL, HE PLANNED ON PLAYING WITH HER HEART FOR HIS OWN DEMENTED ENDS...
AAAHH! SHE'S HATING HIM MORE AND MORE!

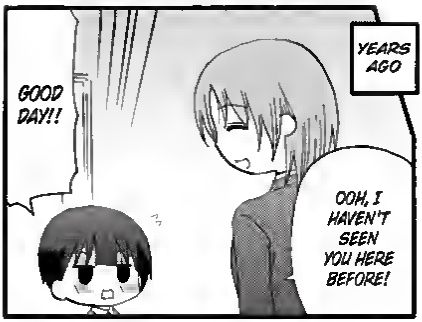
YEAH...BUT NOT REALLY

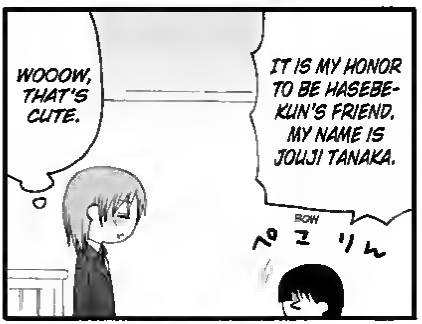






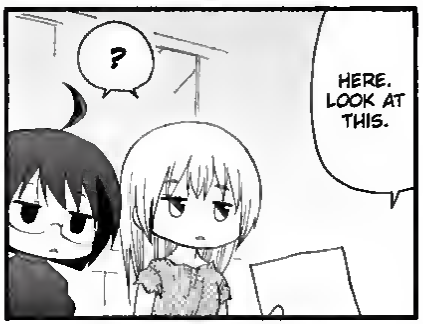
PRIMARY SCHOOL GEORGE





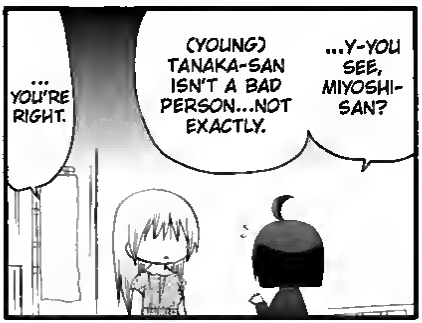
BUT HASEBE-KUN STILL MADE FRIENDS WITH ME!!
I HAVE A HARD TIME MAKING FRIENDS BECAUSE OTHER KIDS DON'T THINK I'M FUN.
THIS IS MY FIRST TIME GOING TO SOMEONE ELSE'S HOUSE TO PLAY!!

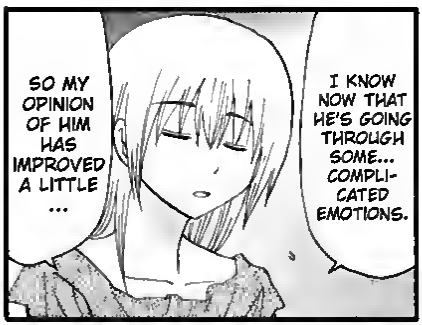
LITTLE GEORGE

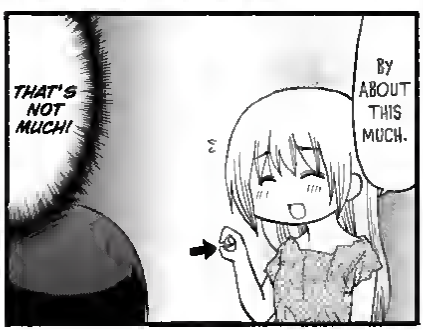


HIGH SCHOOL GEORGE
MIDDLE SCHOOL GEORGE
...IN HIGH SCHOOL.
YOU DON'T EVEN TRY!
HE TOLD ME ABOUT HOW HE SAID...
ANYWAY, THIS RESENTMENT BUILT UP INSIDE OF HIM.
GEORGE TALKED TO ME ABOUT IT
...KAORU-SAN.
ARE YOU AND YUU-KUN GETTING ALONG?
OHH, GEORGE! IT'S BEEN SO LOOONG!
...WOULD BE TO BEAT HIM.
THAT IS, TO BECOME A MAN WORTHY OF STANDING BY HIS SIDE!
I'VE GIVEN IT A LOT OF THOUGHT, AND I THINK THE BEST APOLOGY TO HASEBE...
...I'M PROUD ...
...TO BE HIS FRIEND.
HASEBE IS SO GOOD AT EVERYTHING, IT'S INCREDIBLE ...
YOU'RE EXTREMELY ATTRACTIVE, KAORU-SAN. PLEASE GO OUT WITH ME.
NO.
HASEBE DOESN'T HAVE A GIRLFRIEND, SO I'LL GET ONE!!
GEORGE ...
...IN SCHOOL, IN SPORTS ...
I HAVE TO TRY TO MATCH HIM...
HIS WORK ETHIC IS TOO EXTREME.
HIS STALKER LEVEL TOO.
THAT WAS WHEN GEORGE'S HARDWORKING NATURE TOOK A TURN FOR THE WORSE.
HE WIPES THE FLOOR WITH YOU, HUH, GEORGE ...?
...AND IN COOKING, AND ART, AND CHORES, AND VIDEO GAMES, AND POKER, AND ARM WRESTLING, AND ROCK-PAPER-SCISSORS, AND...

NEW IMPRESSION OF GEORGE



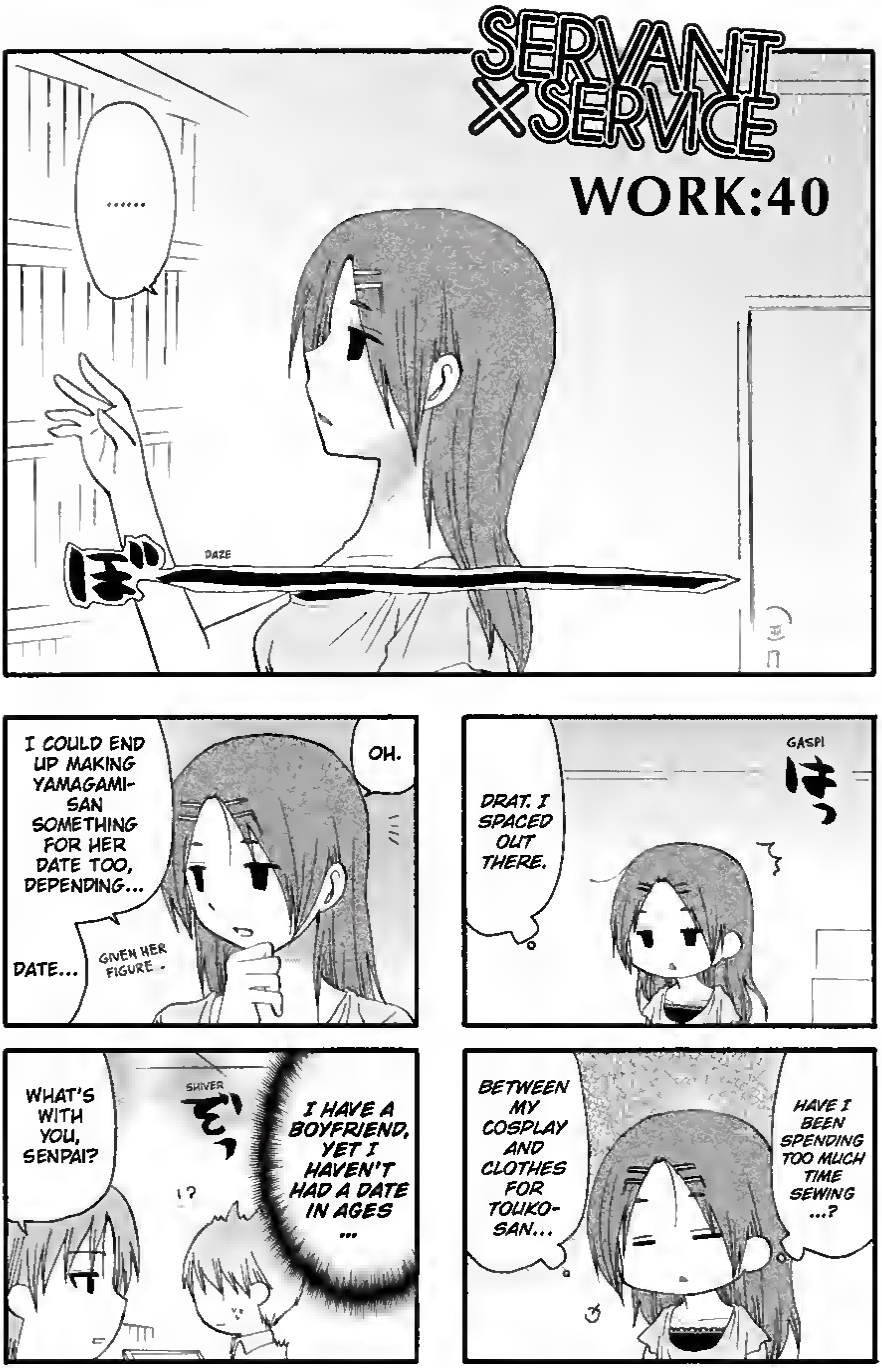




COLLEGE GEORGE

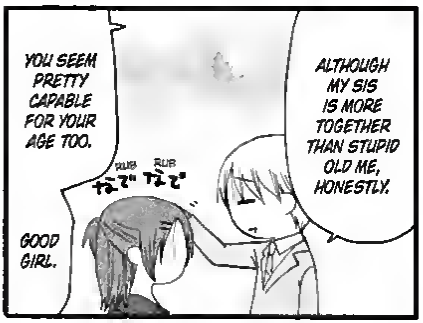
I REFUSE TO LIVE WITH REGRETS!!
I WON'T STOP UNTIL I'VE BEATEN HASEBE!!
HE'S NOT MAD AT YOU ANYMORE ANYWAY.
YES, BUT I'M UPSET WITH MYSELF !!

OH, ABSOLUTELY.
THAT SILLY-WILLY SHOULD JUST QUIT STALKING PEOPLE BEFORE HE DOES SOMETHING HE'LL REGRET.
TEE HEE HEE!
HEE HEE HEE HEE!

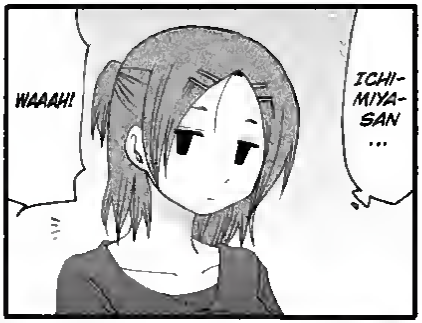

SERVANT × SERVICE
WORK:40
.....
DAZE
I COULD END UP MAKING YAMAGAMI-SAN SOMETHING FOR HER DATE TOO, DEPENDING...
OH.
DATE...
GIVEN HER FIGURE -
DRAT. I SPACED OUT THERE.
GASP!
WHAT'S WITH YOU, SENPAI?
SHIVER
I HAVE A BOYFRIEND, YET I HAVEN'T HAD A DATE IN AGES ...
BETWEEN MY COSPLAY AND CLOTHES FOR TOUKO-SAN...
HAVE I BEEN SPENDING TOO MUCH TIME SEWING ...?

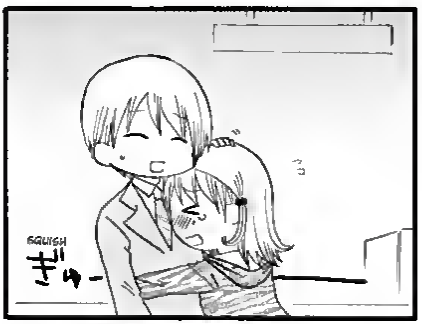
YOUR CLOTHES
SHE MAKES A VALID POINT, BUT WHAT AM I TO DO?
SPRONG
ぴょーん
ICHIMIYA-KUN! THE TEMP MAKES A VALID POINT!!
WHOA!
SIR, SHE'S NOT BORING.
...IT'S NOT LIKE I'M TRYING TO LOOK BORING.
IT'S CALLED DRESSING APPROPRIATELY ACCORDING TO THE OCCASION.
I WOULDN'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT HOW GIRLS DRESS...
ACK! SORRY!!
.....
CHIHAYA & CLOTHES
COME TO THINK OF IT, I USED TO DRESS PLAINLY, MYSELF...
A DATE OUTFIT FOR YAMAGAMI-SAN...
CHIHAYA-KUN.
I'M IMPRESSED WITH YOU.
YES, SIR?
TWO YEARS AGO
YOUR MANNER OF DRESS IS SO BORING.
MOST YOUNG TEMPS WEAR CLOTHES THAT ARE TOO LOUD AND FLASHY.
...HOW SO?
MAYBE IF YOU STARTED LEADING BY EXAMPLE ...
BUN-BUN DISAPPROVES!
THEY SHOULD BE MORE THOUGHTFUL ABOUT THEIR WORKPLACE ATTIRE!

NATURALLY BROTHERLY

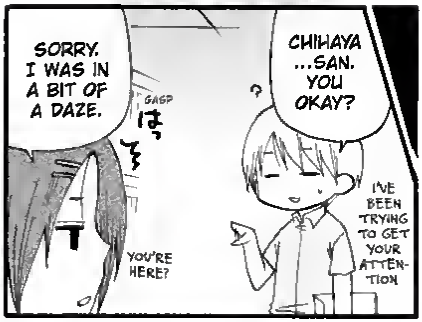


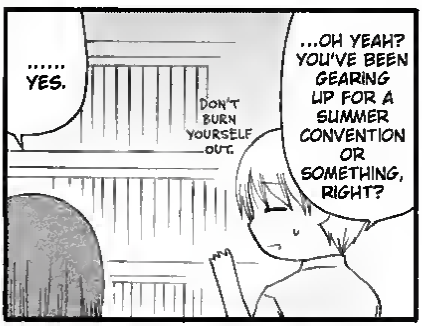
OLDER MAN

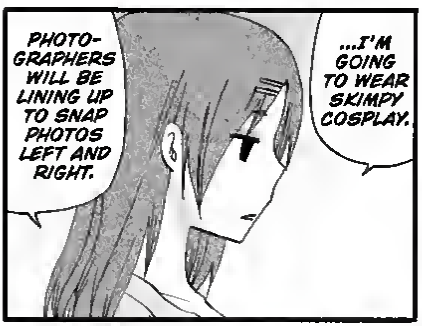




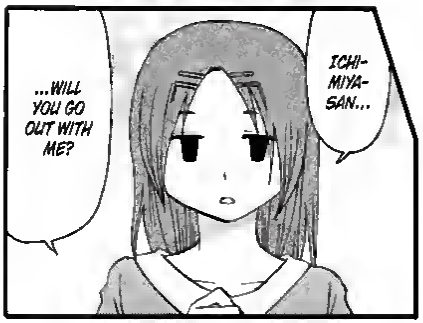
SUBTLE REBELLION

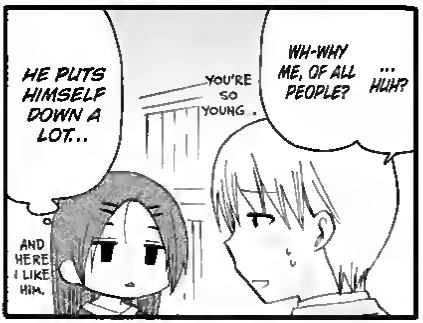




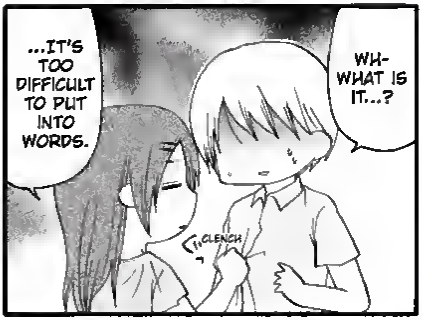


ICHIMIYA'S PRIORITIES

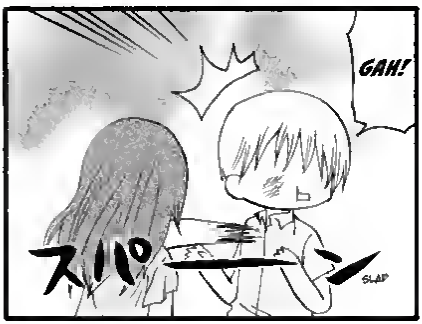




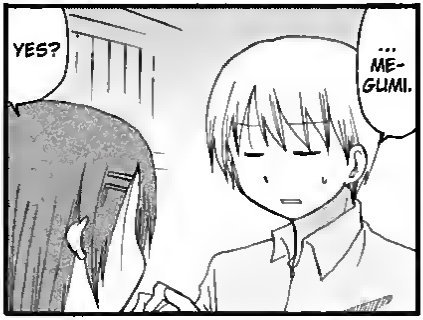
THAT'S SO FAR IN THE SHADOWS THAT I MIGHT NEVER SEE DAY-LIGHT.
...I'M OKAY WITH THAT.
MY SISTER ALWAYS COMES FIRST ON CHRISTMAS AND OTHER SPECIAL OCCASIONS TOO THOUGH..

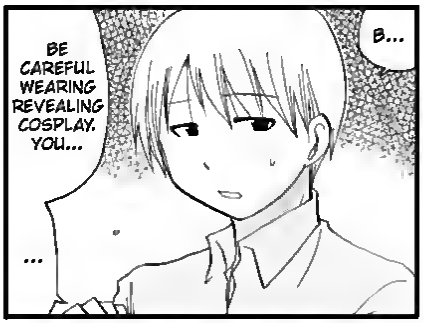

...IT'S TOO DIFFICULT TO PUT INTO WORDS.
WH-WHAT IS IT...?
CLENCH

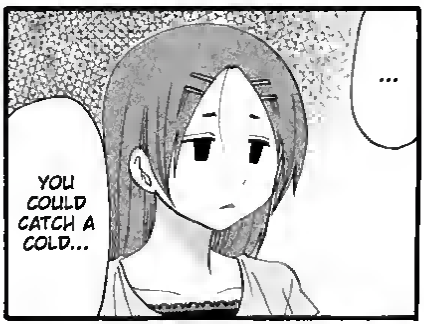
MMF!?
YANK

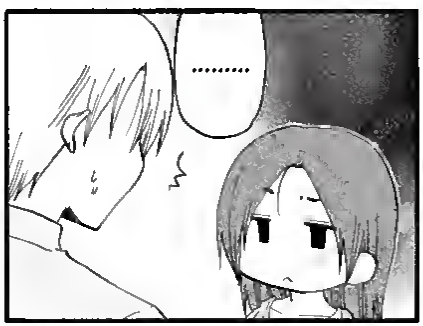

GAH!
スパーン
SLAP

...TH-THANK YOU FOR THAT...
I HAVE WORK TO DO
SO I OFFER YOU A RESPONSE VIA BODY LANGUAGE.
スリ TMP...!!
スリ TMP

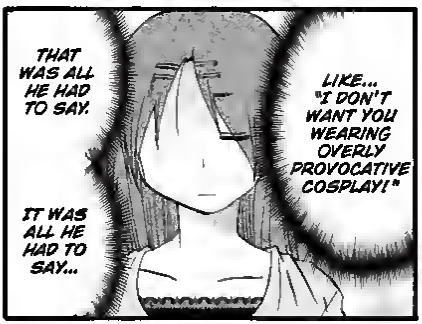

YES?
...ME-GUMI.

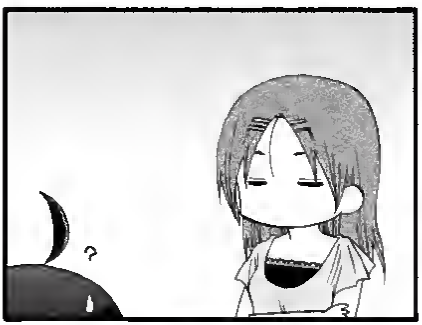

B...
BE CAREFUL WEARING REVEALING COSPLAY. YOU...
...

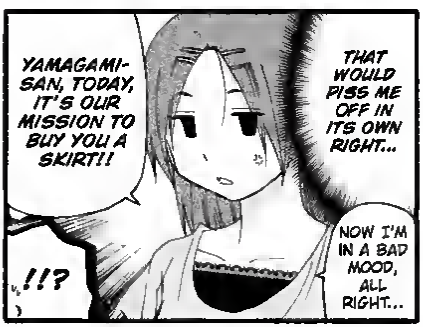

...
YOU COULD CATCH A COLD...


.....

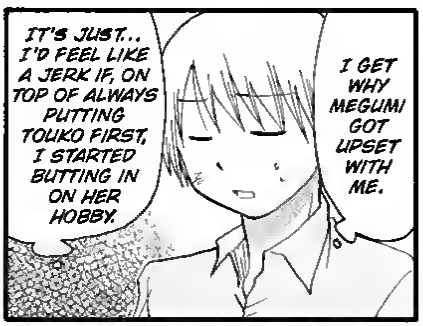
NOT SO FAR OFF THE MARK

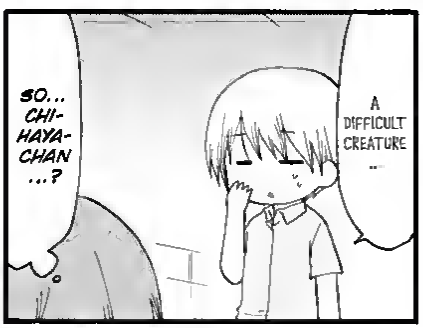






CONFLICT IN A KIND HEART

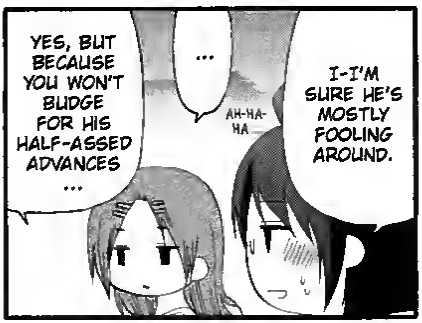

IT'S JUST... I'D FEEL LIKE A JERK IF, ON TOP OF ALWAYS PUTTING TOUKO FIRST, I STARTED BUTTING IN ON HER HOBBY.
I GET WHY MEGUMI GOT UPSET WITH ME.



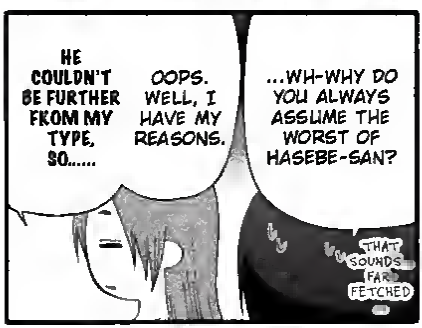
SERVANT × SERVICE

WORK:41

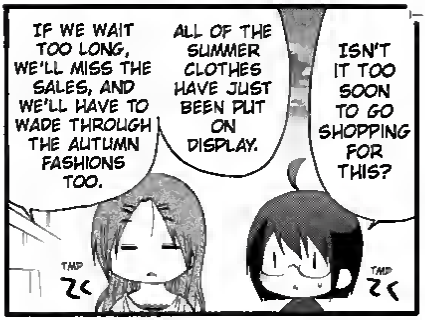
ARCHENEMY

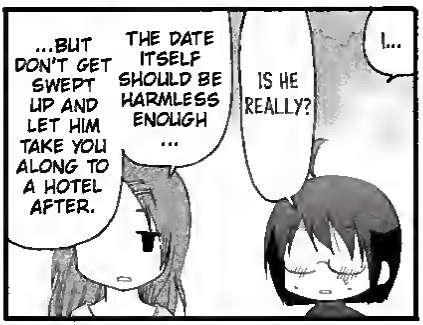


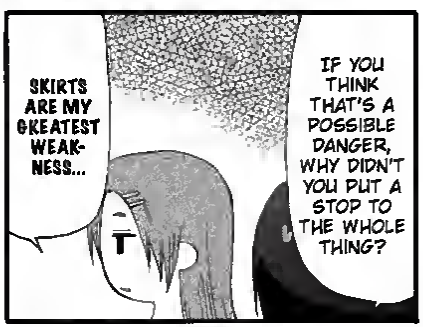
... AND THEN WHEN YOU'VE FALLEN FOR HIM AND HE FINALLY HAS HIS CONQUEST, YOU'LL BE OLD NEWS TO HIM.
...HE'S PULLING OUT ALL THE STOPS TO WOO YOU...


HE COULDN'T BE FURTHER FROM MY TYPE, SO.....
OOPS. WELL, I HAVE MY REASONS.
...WH-WHY DO YOU ALWAYS ASSUME THE WORST OF HASEBE-SAN?
THAT SOUNDS FAR FETCHED

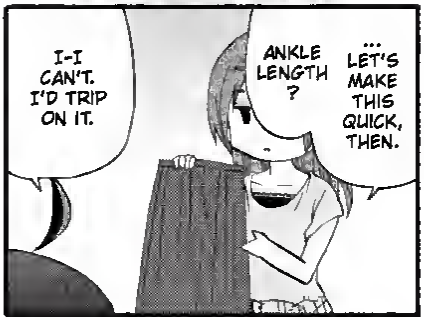
CHIHAYA'S PRIORITIES

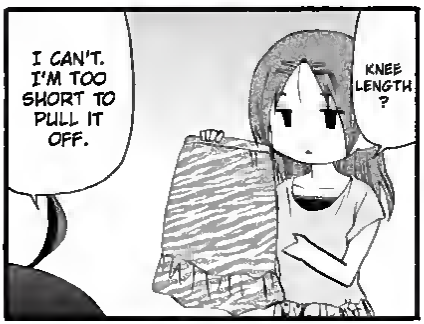

IF WE WAIT TOO LONG, WE'LL MISS THE SALES, AND WE'LL HAVE TO WADE THROUGH THE AUTUMN FASHIONS TOO.
ALL OF THE SUMMER CLOTHES HAVE JUST BEEN PUT ON DISPLAY.
ISN'T IT TOO SOON TO GO SHOPPING FOR THIS?
TMP
TMP





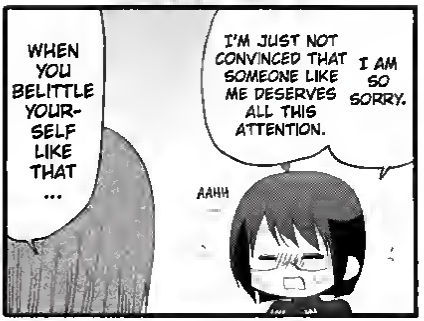
HER PERFECT LENGTH

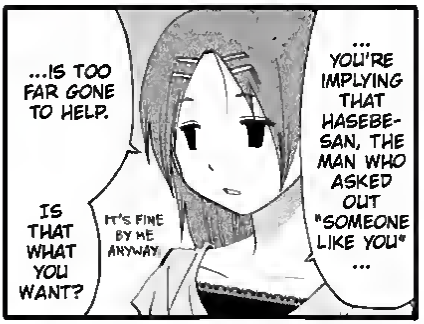


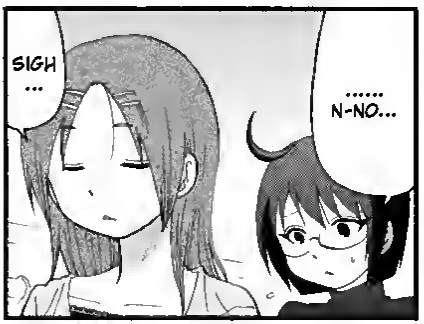


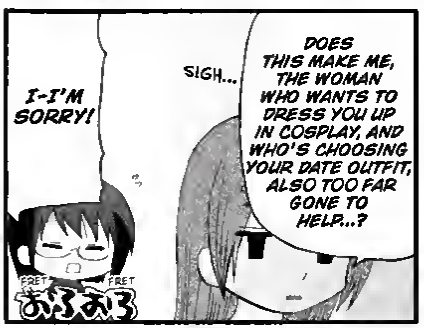
CLOTHING STORE ETIQUETTE

"SOMEONE LIKE ME"

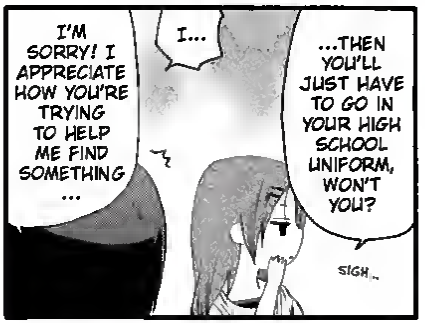

WHEN YOU BELITTLE YOURSELF LIKE THAT ...
I'M JUST NOT CONVINCED THAT SOMEONE LIKE ME DESERVES ALL THIS ATTENTION.
I AM SO SORRY.
AAHH

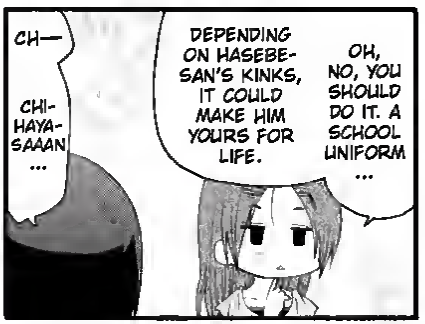

...IS TOO FAR GONE TO HELP.
IS THAT WHAT YOU WANT?
IT'S FINE BY ME ANYWAY.
... YOU'RE IMPLYING THAT HASEBE-SAN, THE MAN WHO ASKED OUT "SOMEONE LIKE YOU" ...



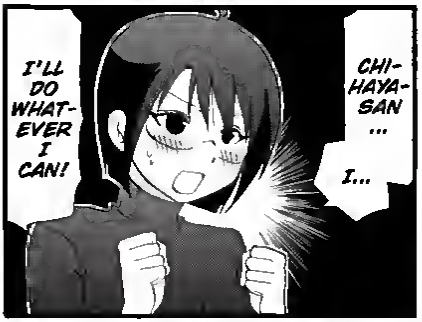

I-I'M SORRY!
SIGH...
DOES THIS MAKE ME, THE WOMAN WHO WANTS TO DRESS YOU UP IN COSPLAY, AND WHO'S CHOOSING YOUR DATE OUTFIT, ALSO TOO FAR GONE TO HELP...?
FRET
FRET
のぶのぶ

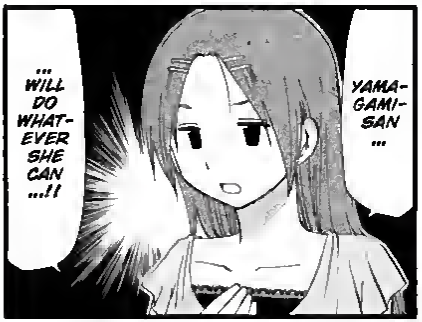
NOT A BAD IDEA

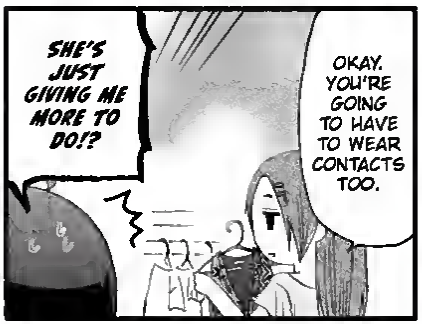

I'M SORRY! I APPRECIATE HOW YOU'RE TRYING TO HELP ME FIND SOMETHING ...
I...
...THEN YOU'LL JUST HAVE TO GO IN YOUR HIGH SCHOOL UNIFORM, WON'T YOU?
SIGH...



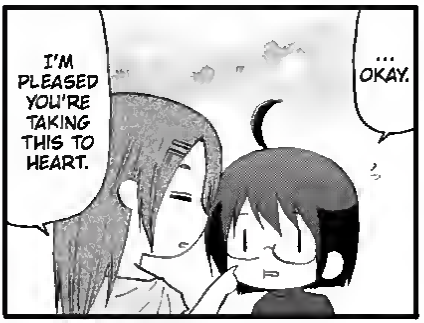
TURNING OVER A NEW LEAF

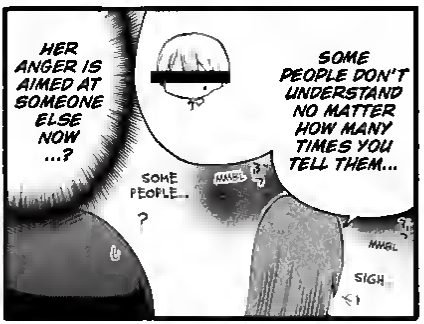




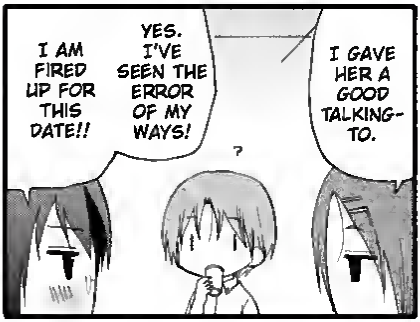


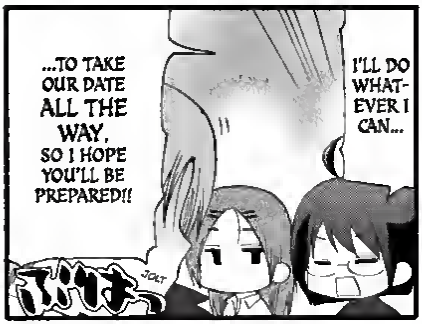
AWARENESS




HER ANGER IS AIMED AT SOMEONE ELSE NOW ...?
SOME PEOPLE...
MMGL
SOME PEOPLE DON'T UNDERSTAND NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES YOU TELL THEM...
MMGL
SIGH

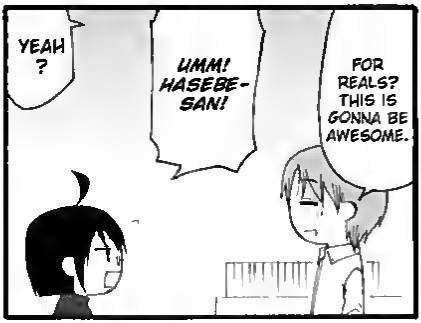
LUCY'S RESOLVE





LUCY'S CHANGE OF HEART

HOWEVER, THERE WAS AN ISSUE WITH THE SIZE (OF THE TOP), SO I'M GOING TO MAKE IT FOR HER.
WE DID FIND A WINNER.
DIDJA FIND ONE? DIDJA FIND A SKIRT?



POSTSCRIPT FOR VOLUME 2

TO MY READERS, THOSE OF YOU WHO HAVE BEEN WITH US SINCE THE PREVIOUS VOLUME, AND ALSO THOSE OF YOU NOW JOINING US FOR THE FIRST TIME: GOOD MORNING, GOOD AFTERNOON, GOOD EVENING. THIS IS KARINO TAKATSU.

IT TOOK FOUR YEARS FOR VOLUME 1 TO BE PUBLISHED, BUT ONLY A LITTLE OVER ONE YEAR FOR VOLUME 2 TO COME OUT! WASN'T THAT FAST? ...OKAY, I CAN'T QUITE SHAKE THE FEELING THAT ONE YEAR ISN'T EXACTLY ALL THAT FAST. THANK YOU FOR YOUR PATIENCE.

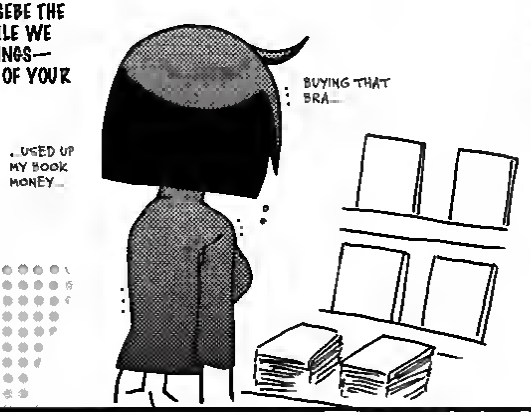
THIS TIME THERE WAS ALSO A SPECIAL EDITION BUNDLED WITH A DRAMA CD. I SAT IN ON THE POST-PRODUCTION AND, LIKE MY USUAL SELF, CAME BACK HOME AFTER BARELY SAYING HELLO OR DOING ANY WORK! AND TO THINK THAT, WHEN I WORKED AT A PUBLIC SERVICE OFFICE, I SAT AT A CLIENT WINDOW AND TALKED TO PEOPLE...HARD TO IMAGINE...

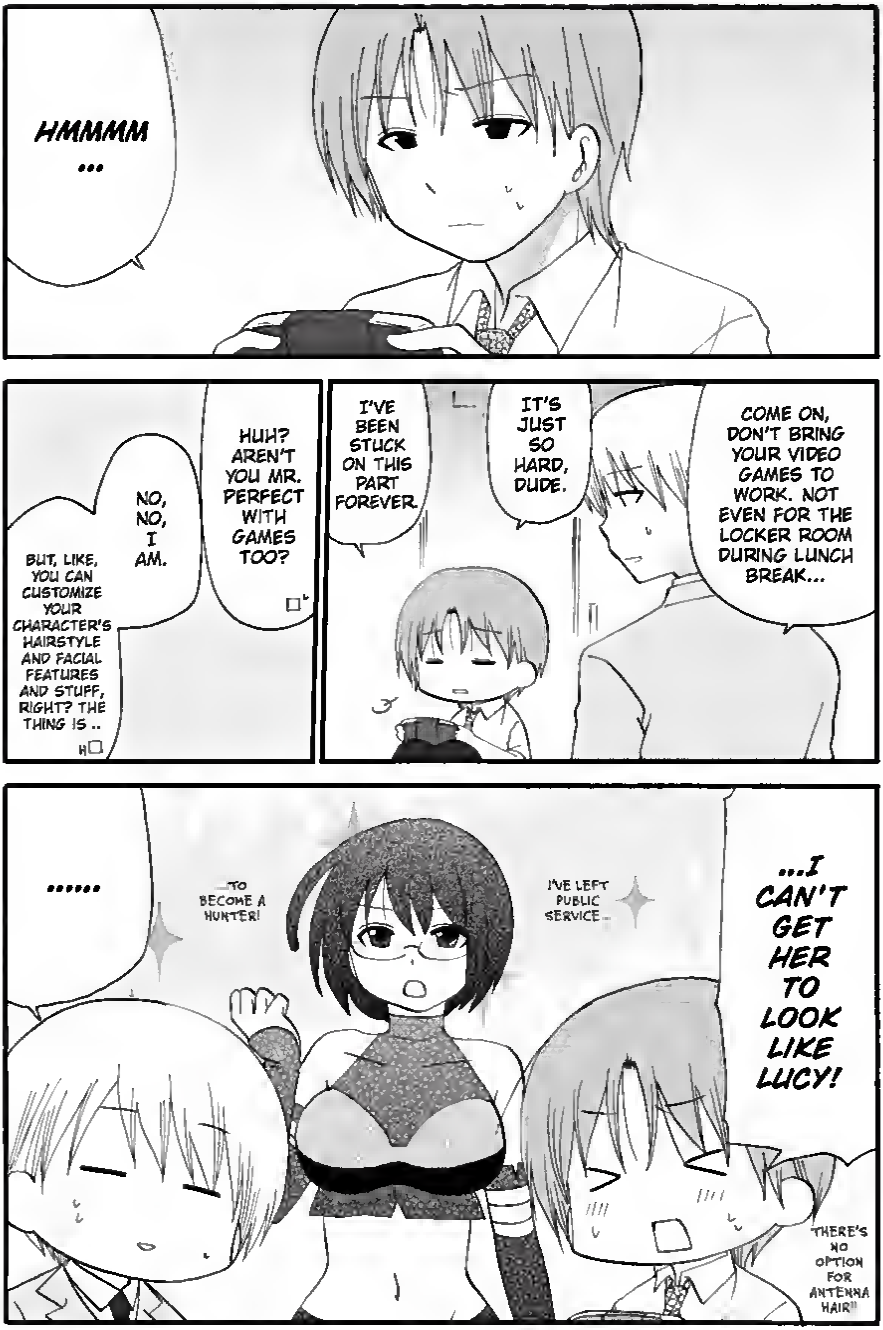
ANYWAY, I'LL DO WHATEVER I CAN TO GET VOLUME 3 OUT! I HOPE YOU'LL LOOK FORWARD TO IT. UNTIL NEXT TIME.

KARINO TAKATSU

TO MY DEAR ASSISTANTS WHO WORK HARD EVEN AS THE NUMBER OF CHARACTERS WHO NEED SCREENTONES INCREASES—

AND TO MY EDITOR WHO ENDED UP GIVING HASEBE THE NICKNAME "BE" WHILE WE WERE HAVING MEETINGS— THANK YOU FOR ALL OF YOUR HELP.




HMMMM ...
COME ON, DON'T BRING YOUR VIDEO GAMES TO WORK. NOT EVEN FOR THE LOCKER ROOM DURING LUNCH BREAK...
IT'S JUST SO HARD, DUDE.
I'VE BEEN STUCK ON THIS PART FOREVER.
HUH? AREN'T YOU MR. PERFECT WITH GAMES TOO?
NO, NO, I AM.
BUT, LIKE, YOU CAN CUSTOMIZE YOUR CHARACTER'S HAIRSTYLE AND FACIAL FEATURES AND STUFF, RIGHT? THE THING IS ..
.....
...I CAN'T GET HER TO LOOK LIKE LUCY!
TO BECOME A HUNTER!
I'VE LEFT PUBLIC SERVICE...
THERE'S NO OPTION FOR ANTENNA HAIR!!

...
HMMMM
...
HMMMM
...
IT'S, LIKE, YOU HAVE TO MAKE YOUR CHARACTER GROW STRONGER, RIGHT?
LUCY, IN THIS CASE.
DO YOU NEED TO KEEP STARING AT THAT, THEN? YEESH.
NO, NO, NO ...
OH, I GOT PAST THAT!
SHE'S ADORBS!!
THE CHARACTER CREATION SCREEN?
... YOU'RE STILL STUCK ON THAT?
YOU KNOW !?
THIS IS CHILLY.
BUT WHAT GIVES? THE STRONGER THE ARMOR, THE LESS SKIN IT COVERS! IT MAKES ME NOT WANNA EQUIP HER! BUT THEN AGAIN, I'LL FEEL BAD IF SHE GETS HURT BECAUSE I DIDN'T GEAR HER UP!
HUH !?
!?
...YOU'RE BEING... CREEPY.
LOOK, HASEBE... DON'T TAKE THIS THE WRONG WAY, BUT...

TRANSLATION NOTES

Common Honorifics
no honorific: Indicates familiarity or closeness; if used without permission or reason, addressing someone in this manner would constitute an insult.

-san: The Japanese equivalent of Mr./Mrs./Miss. If a situation calls for politeness, this is the fail-safe honorific.
-sama: Conveys great respect; may also indicate that the social status of the speaker is lower than that of the addressee.
-kun: Used most often when referring to boys, this indicates affection or familiarity. Occasionally used by older men among their peers, but it may also be used by anyone referring to a person of lower standing.
***-chan* (also *-tan*)**: An affectionate honorific indicating familiarity used mostly in reference to girls; also used in reference to cute persons or animals of either gender.
-senpai: An honorific used to address upperclassmen or more experienced coworkers.
-sensei: A respectful honorific for teachers, artists, or high-level professionals.

Use of last name: Why does no one bat an eye when Lucy introduces herself by last name only, and insists on being called Yamagami? Because addressing others by their last names is far more pervasive in Japanese than in English, especially among adults. In fact, using someone's first name can be considered extremely rude if you don't know them well enough, especially if you say it without an honorific. Being on a first-name basis with someone typically implies that you're in a close relationship: you're either family, old and/or close friends, or romantically involved. Luckily for Lucy, this means she can introduce herself with only her very Japanese last name, which must save her who knows how many headaches in her everyday life.

Page 158
Senran Kagura: A side-scrolling video game franchise featuring many a busty ninja girl.

Page 163
Dumped by Christmas: In Japan, Christmas Eve is considered the biggest date night of the year rather than necessarily a family holiday.

Page 172
Comiket: Comic Market, a.k.a. Comiket, is famous for giving creators an avenue to sell their doujinshi, but also has a separate area for cosplayers to show off their costumes and pose for photographers.

Page 240
BL: Boys' love, a genre focused on male/male relationships.

Page 241
Care-needs review committee: Under long-term care insurance, after a beneficiary has applied at their public services office for benefits, they undergo an assessment to determine their needs. Surveyors (like Hasebe and Ichimiya) are sent to do an on-site evaluation at the beneficiary's home, the appropriate doctors are asked for their professional opinions, etc., and at the end of this process, a small committee meets to evaluate the assessment.

Page 243
Jouji: Growing up, poor Jouji must have been the butt of many a joke. "Jouji" is already an uncommon-sounding name, but it's also a homophone for the word jouji, which means "ordinarily" or "always." On top of that, the kanji for the "ji" in his name is the character for the number two. In Japanese, the joke that Jouji is so upset about is, "That's our Jouji, always (jouji) second place." And he is, indeed, always in second place.

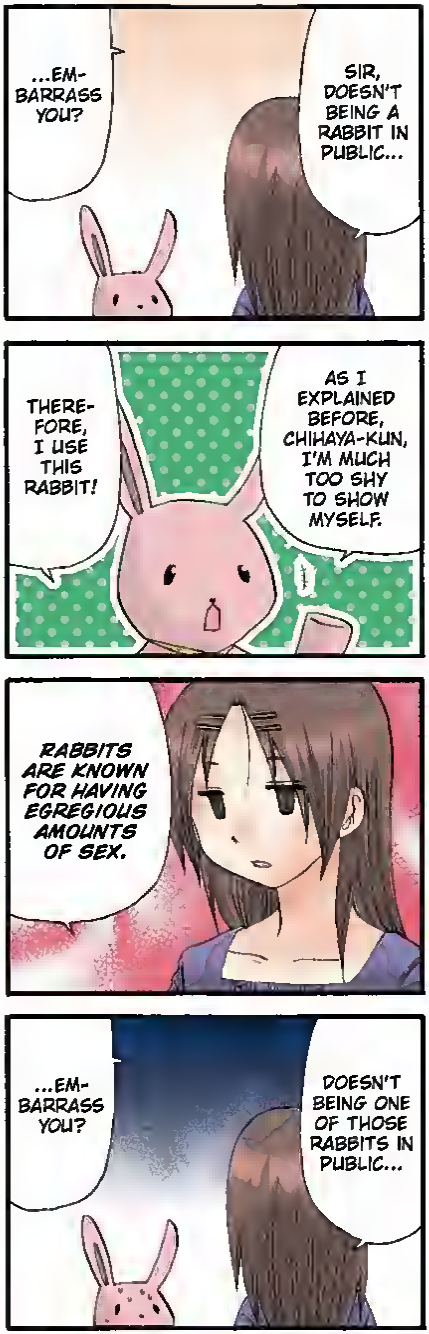
Page 244
***Hanafuda* cards**: A set of Japanese playing cards. The name translates to "flower cards." There are twelve suits in a deck of hanafuda—one suit for each month—and each suit features pictures of a different flower or plant.

Page 245
Georgie: The way Hasebe and Kaoru call Jouji's name in katakana seems meant to parallel the way they nicknamed Lucy, hence "George" or "Georgie" whenever it's in katakana.

Page 254
Summer dress code: In Japan, the "Cool Biz" campaign encourages energy conservation by implementing a more casual dress code for government workers during the summer. With short sleeves, no jackets, and no ties, employees can stay cooler in the summer heat while offices limit air conditioner use.

Page 288
Mae: Feelings of affection or endearment, typically for cute female characters in anime, manga, and video games, but applicable to other things as well.

FLAP BONUS


...EM-BARRASS YOU?
SIR, DOESN'T BEING A RABBIT IN PUBLIC...
THERE-FORE, I USE THIS RABBIT!
AS I EXPLAINED BEFORE, CHIHAYA-KUN, I'M MUCH TOO SHY TO SHOW MYSELF.
RABBITS ARE KNOWN FOR HAVING EGREGIOUS AMOUNTS OF SEX.
...EM-BARRASS YOU?
DOESN'T BEING ONE OF THOSE RABBITS IN PUBLIC...

SERVANT X SERVICE ❷

Karino Takatsu

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This book is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the product of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is coincidental.

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